

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

MAGAZINE

VOL. 33 • NO. 2

WANTED: FACTS & FORTITUDE

Seeking journalists to restore faith in a hard-hit industry. Courage and integrity required.

Bive Hens Protect the Power of the Pen

Student Panel To Address the Ways Media is Consumed and Produced on Campus

Threats to Media Integrity

Media Ecosystem
Much is at Stake

- Understanding
- Ability to relate
- Power as citizen

MANY ARE...

★Rising to the Challenge

VISUAL FORENSICS
DEBUNK GOVERNMENT

Aspiring Journalists

Relate to the world
you are covering
Create a new narrative

ETHICAL
DEBATE



FAR OUT!

A massive new telescope high in Chile's Andes Mountains is about to transform our understanding of the universe. The Vera C. Rubin Observatory's Legacy Survey of Space and Time (LSST) will repeatedly scan the entire Southern Hemisphere night sky for the next 10 years, capturing more data than has ever been possible. With the world's largest digital camera and an 8-meter telescope, LSST will allow scientists to create a time-lapse movie of the universe, shedding light on phenomena from exploding stars to dark energy. Helping to lead the charge: UD astrophysicist Federica Bianco, Rubin Observatory's deputy project scientist and interim head of science; astronomer John Gizis; data scientist David Hong; and many students.

—Beth Miller



CONTENTS

VOL. 33
No. 2

FEATURES

10 NEW CONFERENCE, SAME SPIRIT

Here are 10 things to know about UD's move to Conference USA.

14 INNOVATION FOR THE NATION

Like a science fair for grown-ups, UD's biannual D.C. event highlights the power of federally funded research.

16 BREAKING NEWS

Facing fractures in the profession, Blue Hen journalists stay rooted in mission.

24 THE DAY OF THE DINOSAUR

Alumnus Kenneth Lacovara brings ancient beasts to life in a new world-class museum.

28 LEADING EDGE

In UD's newest, most collaborative teaching and research facility, Blue Hens ask why—and what and how.

IN EVERY ISSUE

4 ON THE GREEN

32 ALUMNI NEWS

38 CLASS NOTES

48 A CONVERSATION WITH...

FACING PAGE: Students and alumni of UD's journalism program, pictured from left: Brenden Patterson, AS26; Zoe Read, AS11, WHY environmental reporter; Konner Metz, AS24, *Star Democrat* general assignment reporter in eastern Maryland; Brandon Holvek, AS19, *The News Journal*, high school sports reporter; Artika Casini, AS05, managing editor of *UD Magazine*; and Patrick LaPorte, AS22, sports editor for the *Cecil Whig* in Elkton, Maryland. Photo by Evan Krape.

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE MAGAZINE

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 2025

Managing Editor Artika Rangan Casini, AS05

Associate Editor Diane Stopyra

Art Director & Production Molly Chappell

Lead Designer Bondé Angeline

Contributing Designers Jeff Chase, AS91, Jaynell Keely, Joy Smoker, AS21M

Production Bondé Angeline, Danny Wright

Executive Editor Katy O'Connell, ANR00

Editorial Adviser John Brennan

Vice President for Communications & Marketing Glenn Carter

Creative Director Dave Keen

Senior Photographer Kathy F. Atkinson

Photographer Evan Krape, AS09

Advertising Sales Nick Biasotto, AS69

Advertising Coordinator Kamesha Medley



Please share or recycle this magazine.



SOME THINGS ENDURE

In the early 2000s, as printing presses shuttered nationwide, UD visual communications professors Ray Nichols and Bill Deering hit the road. Driving a U-Haul coast to coast, they purchased all they could—three hand-operated presses circa 1822, 1927 and 1950, along with nearly 1,000 cases of metal and wood type—and then sold these treasures to the University for a mere dollar. They believed the history of bringing words to life was worth preserving, and that relics of the past could teach our students a timeless lesson in both message and medium.

It seemed only fitting then to photograph UD's Raven Press (pictured here) for a cover story on the Fourth Estate—not just its fractures and flaws, but also its fortitude and fight (page 16). Typewriters may have given way to TikTok; ink replaced by Instagram. But some things endure.

For Blue Hen journalists, it's the basics: the ability to ask questions and question answers—like Rich Jones, AS93, who helped overhaul New Jersey's failing child welfare system (page 17). It's the courage to challenge assumptions and

pursue the truth—like reframing the narrative of the U.S. Virgin Islands, as Peter Bailey, AS02, and Jed JohnHope, EG03, are doing in their native land (page 21). It's the act of giving voice to the voiceless and holding power to account—like Morgan Winsor, AS12, whose article helped end the solitary confinement of Hotel Rwanda activist Paul Rusesabagina (page 22). And sometimes it's simply applying Delaware values into everyday life (page 20) or sharing the stories of inspiring alumni in a university magazine. This is a profession built on heart, wisdom, grit and hope—the very essence of the UD spirit.

It can often seem like print is going the way of the dinosaur (page 24). But here at the University, we know the bones remain. As do the Blue Hens digging deep to preserve them.

Artika Casini
ARTIKA RANGAN CASINI, AS05
MANAGING EDITOR

ON THE GREEN

News
from campus
and beyond



FUTURE FORWARD: NEW LEADERSHIP AT UD

As the University of Delaware turns the page on a transformative chapter, a new leadership team is poised to guide UD into its next era of innovation and impact.

On July 1, Provost Laura Carlson became interim president, bringing with her a collaborative, student-focused approach and a track record of leading ambitious academic initiatives. She is joined by Bill Farquhar, incoming interim provost; Beth Brand, AS95, vice president for development and alumni relations; and a forthcoming team of senior leaders who will shape the future of institutional advancement.

Since joining UD in 2022, Carlson has focused on enhancing access, enrollment, programming and academic excellence by developing and implementing a multi-year strategy that integrates financial, enrollment and hiring plans.

Known for her transparent and inclusive leadership style, Carlson previously served as vice president, associate provost and dean of the Graduate School at Notre Dame. She holds a Ph.D. in psychology and specializes in cognitive science and decision making. In her new role, she will continue to champion access, academic quality and research growth.

“Since coming to the University of Delaware three years ago, I have fallen in love with UD—the passion of our students,



EVANI KRAPE

the brilliance and enduring commitment of our faculty and staff, and our close-knit Blue Hen community that extends from campus throughout the state and beyond,” Carlson says. “I am honored and humbled to be stepping in to guide this very special institution, and I thank the Board of Trustees for their confidence and support.”

As interim provost, Farquhar steps into the position after 23 years of faculty leadership at UD. The nationally recognized physiologist most recently served as dean of the College of Health Sciences, where he expanded academic programs, increased research funding and led UD’s health research strategy.



EVAN KRAPE

UD TASK FORCE ALIGNS VALUES WITH EXPERIENCE

The University of Delaware has launched a Campus Culture and Engagement Task Force to ensure that UD's core values are clearly reflected in its language, programs and practices, now and into the future.

University leaders say this initiative builds on long-standing principles that guide UD's mission in education, research and service. It also reflects a call to action: to continually examine and improve how these values are lived out across the institution.

This fall, UD will begin hosting conversations with students, faculty, staff and alumni to reimagine a more unified and supportive campus culture. These efforts focus on enhancing the services and experiences that help every member of the UD community feel welcomed, included and empowered to thrive.

A newly created webpage, udel.edu/about/campus-culture-and-engagement, serves as a central hub for updates, resources and opportunities for engagement.

The website will be updated regularly, and members of the community are encouraged to share feedback and ideas as the University charts its path forward. 🐦



As vice president for development and alumni relations, Brand is committed to growing UD's culture of philanthropy and strengthening connections with UD alumni across the globe. She most recently served as vice president and University secretary. Those responsibilities are now managed by Angela Downin, vice president and general counsel, who will oversee the role of supporting Board governance and related functions.

This leadership transition follows the conclusion of President Dennis Assanis' tenure, which spanned 2016 to 2025. Under his purview, UD launched the Forward and Forever strategic plan, doubled its research expenditures, created new academic units and programs and reimagined campus infrastructure, including the expansion of STAR Campus and the founding of the Honors and Graduate Colleges. The Board of Trustees recognized Assanis as President Emeritus and awarded his wife, Eleni Assanis, the Medal of Distinction. 🐦

Facing page: Laura Carlson. Above, from left: Bill Farquhar and Beth Brand.



KATHY F. ATKINSON

UD LAUNCHES AI INSTITUTE FOCUSED ON TRUST AND TRANSPARENCY

At a time when artificial intelligence is often developed behind closed doors, the University of Delaware is taking a different approach.

With the launch of the First State AI Institute, UD will promote an open, human-centered vision of AI rooted in transparency, accountability and public benefit. The institute will support researchers with practical tools to analyze data and streamline complex tasks, while also exploring how AI can improve University operations.

Led by Professor Sunita Chandrasekaran and located in the FinTech Innovation Hub on UD's STAR Campus, the institute will sit near two key institutional partners: the Data Science Institute and the AI Center of Excellence, where Chandrasekaran serves as co-director. These synergies will expand UD's AI footprint and elevate its voice in national conversations on science and technology.

"Our focus will be on developing open-source and transparent solutions through AI models customized to meet our problems and needs," Chandrasekaran says. "We want AI to serve people, not mystify or displace them."

The institute will design specialized hardware to run trustworthy, secure AI models across campus operations and research needs. It will also benefit from a growing team of Research Software Engineers (RSEs), professionals who help translate scientific ideas into usable code.

Chandrasekaran leads the Democratizing Access to Research Software Engineering effort, a \$4.7 million initiative funded by the National Science Foundation to grow the RSE talent pipeline. These experts will help faculty across disciplines explore AI's potential.

"Some scholars may not realize how AI could accelerate their work," she says. "A big goal is to simply open that door for them."

The institute will also test AI tools for administrative use, such as a "compliance checker" for research proposals.

"All the hype makes it sound like your job will disappear tomorrow," Chandrasekaran adds. "That's just not the case. Humans absolutely must stay in the loop. We're building systems where trust, transparency and oversight are baked in." 🐦

—Tracey Bryant

A SWEET SLICE OF CAMPUS LIFE

UD students got a tasty surprise at Caesar Rodney Dining Hall earlier this spring.

The first Blue Hen Bake Off invited chefs from around campus to create 200 servings of delicious dessert in a competition inspired by the reality TV cooking show *Chopped*. The five participating teams had access to a shared pantry of baking ingredients, herbs, fruits and spices. At noon, their secret ingredients were revealed: lemons and blueberries in honor of the University colors.

"It couldn't have worked out any better for us," says winning Chef Carl Zampini, whose team of student assistants, Alexandria Joiner, BE27, and Jessica Audette, BE28, created a lemon berry pavlova.

Fellow students taste-tested and voted, joined by celebrity judges Dana Herbert, BE98, and Cake Boss star Buddy Valastro, whose daughter is a UD senior. Earlier in the day, Valastro spoke to students in a hospitality class about turning Carlo's Bake Shop into a global brand.

The Blue Hen Bake Off is another unique event from UD Dining, including Battle of the Bites in the fall and the Chicken Wing Takeover in the spring. 🐦

—Jessica Downey, AS22

Chef Carl Zampini's lemon berry pavlova won first place at the Blue Hen Bake Off. The contest was judged by Cake Boss Buddy Valastro and Dana Herbert of Desserts by Dana.

PHOTOS BY EVAN KRAPE



ARCHITECTURAL RENDERING



STAR CAMPUS ADDS RESIDENTIAL HUB

A long-envisioned goal for UD's Science, Technology and Advanced Research (STAR) Campus has been to create a vibrant learning-working-living community. With 1.2 million square feet of classrooms, labs, clinics and offices already in use, and more than 3,000 people working on-site daily, the "living" piece is now coming into focus.

Earlier this spring, construction began on a \$71 million residential complex that will bring 229 market-rate apartments near the south entrance of STAR Campus. The project, developed by the Buccini Pollin Group (BPG), features two seven-story buildings connected by a glass skybridge.

The 235,000-square-foot complex will include studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments, plus amenities like a pool, pickleball court, basketball and fitness center, lounge, communal kitchen, game room, dog run and parking.

BPG has played a central role in STAR's development for over 15 years—decommissioning the former Chrysler plant in 2009 and building the Bloom Energy plant, which was the first non-UD tenant on the site.

STAR is also home to the Health Sciences Center, Tower at STAR, FinTech Innovation Hub, Ammon Pinizzotto Biopharmaceutical Innovation Center and the Chemours Discovery Hub. The SABRE Center, now under development, will train and test the biotech workforce of tomorrow. A train station at the north end connects STAR to cities across the East Coast.

Looking ahead, STAR has room for 5 million more square feet of growth. 🐦

—Mike Chalmers, AS20M



EVAN KRAPE

OFFICER FUR THE COMMUNITY

She's got a badge, a vest and a tail that rarely stops wagging. Patti, a yellow Labrador and UD's first facility dog, is trained in more than 90 commands. But her real gift is connection.

"People tend to be more comfortable recounting the traumatic events they experienced or witnessed if a dog like Patti is present," says Cpl. Jamel Howard, her handler. "She's a connector, a conversation starter and a community-builder."

Raised through Puppies Behind Bars, a program where incarcerated individuals train service animals, Patti arrived this summer with more than 10,000 hours of socialization and offering a source of peace in tense moments.

Whether she's comforting a witness, boosting officer morale or drawing students in for a quick hello, Patti's mission remains the same: making campus a little safer, kinder and connected.

Follow Patti on Instagram @k9_patti_udelpd. 

—Chris Vito

A DECADE OF GLOBAL LEARNING

Ten years ago, UD launched the World Scholars program with just 39 freshmen studying abroad in Rome. Today, the globally recognized four-year program has international partnerships in New Zealand, Greece, Spain—and most recently, England.

Navleen Kaur, BE25, recalls waking up in Rome as a nervous freshman far from home. Now a graduate with a degree in international business and marketing, she credits her global experiences with building confidence and independence.

Amber Tiongson, AS26, echoes that sentiment. Her time in Madrid and her study abroad in Buenos Aires expanded her Spanish fluency and opened doors—like an internship at the U.S. Department of State. “The program made me more resilient, compassionate and ambitious,” she says.

World Scholars spend their first semester abroad, live in international housing as sophomores, intern overseas as juniors and prepare for global futures in their final year.

“The program attracts forward-thinking, curious students,” says Amy Greenwald Foley, EHD13EdD, UD’s director of global outreach and partnerships. “It’s a tight-knit community that opens the world.”

For Mira Warriar, BSPA21, now at the U.S. Department of Commerce, those international experiences offer an edge. “We benefit from UD being global-minded,” she says.

Ten years in, the impact of World Scholars continues to ripple across the globe. 🐦

—Jamie Washington



CLOSET WITH A CAUSE

Tucked inside the Center for Intercultural Engagement, UD’s new Clothing Coop offers more than free clothes—it’s a student-led space for self-expression, sustainability and support. Founded to provide professional attire, the Coop has grown into a resource for all kinds of clothing needs, assisting dozens of students each week and operating entirely on donations. Want to help? Visit udel.edu/students/support/blue-hen-essentials/clothing to learn more. 🐦

—Marina Jones



EVAN KRAPE



EVAN KRAPE

NEW CONFERENCE. SAME FIGHTIN'!

This year marks one of the biggest moves in UD's athletic history—a transition from the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) to the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS). As the Fightin' Blue Hens compete in Conference USA, here are 10 key things every fan should know:

3

NORTHEASTERN FLAGSHIP

Most Conference USA schools are in the South and Southeast, but Delaware's arrival expands the conference's footprint into the Northeast, bringing new markets, new rivalries and a broader pool of prospective students who will now learn the UD story.

4

A PLACE TO SHINE

Conference USA has a proud tradition of postseason success, with member schools making their mark across the national stage. From Final Four appearances in men's and women's basketball to deep runs in the College World Series and Softball World Series, Conference USA teams consistently rise to the occasion.

8

NATIONAL EXPOSURE

Conference USA games air on CBS Sports Network, ESPN and ESPN+, and include at least five nationally televised contests this year. This means the Delaware brand will reach more viewers across the country, from recruits to alumni and fans.

9

BIGGER EXPECTATIONS

FBS brings more prestige, better scheduling and a louder voice in college sports. "This move allows us to compete at a higher level," says Jordan Skolnick, interim athletics director. "It's about creating meaningful opportunities for our student-athletes and strengthening the Blue Hen brand on a national stage."

10

A NEW ERA

The move to Conference USA aligns with the University's broader vision to elevate its national profile, energize its fan base and give student-athletes a top-tier Division I experience. For fans, it means bigger games, brighter lights and a deeper sense of pride.

SPIRIT.

1

THIS IS THE BIG TIME

Delaware is moving from FCS, where schools compete in a playoff system, to the FBS, where teams are eligible for bowl games and the College Football Playoff. Only 136 schools in the nation play at this highest level—and UD is now one of them.

2

PART OF THE FBS

Conference USA is an FBS Group of Six conference—along with the American Athletic Conference, Pacific-12, Sun Belt, Mountain West and Mid-American Conference. Known collectively as the “mid-majors,” they compete nationally and offer full scholarship support, bowl tie-ins and major visibility.

5

A PATH TO BOWL GAMES

In the FCS, postseason games were earned through a 24-team playoff. In the FBS, the Blue Hens will be eligible for bowl games after winning six games or more. These televised matchups bring exposure, alumni tailgates and recruiting power.

6

NEW OPPONENTS, NEW RIVALRIES

This fall alone, Blue Hens are facing schools like Colorado, Wake Forest and UConn, and in future years, reconnecting with historic rivals like JMU and Temple, making for exciting, meaningful matchups.

7

YEARLY CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Conference USA hosts an annual football championship game in December, giving UD a clear target each season and a chance to compete for FBS hardware.

JOIN THE FLOCK, WHEREVER YOU ARE

As Delaware enters Conference USA and steps onto the national FBS stage, we need our Blue Hen pride to rise just as high. With more games on national TV, it's easier than ever to cheer on the Hens, from Newark to Nashville. Host a watch party, organize a game day happy hour or bring your Blue Hen network together to celebrate this new chapter. Visit bluehens.com/newera to learn more. Because this new era belongs to all of us.



HALSEY KONNOR



MOVEMENT MATTERS FOR KIDS WITH AUTISM

Whole-body movement boosts cognitive function in children with autism, according to new research from UD physical therapy professor Anjana Bhat.

In her Move 2 Learn Innovation Lab, Bhat studied children ages 5 to 15, comparing those who engaged in full-body activities like obstacle courses and dancing to those who participated in seated play like building with blocks. The active group showed clear improvements in executive functioning—skills like decision making, planning and multitasking.

“These are the skills required in daily life to make decisions and choices about how to do an activity with multiple parts,” Bhat says.

The study, funded by the Delaware INBRE Pilot Project Award and published in *Disability and Rehabilitation*, also found that movement-based interventions were effective whether delivered in person or via telehealth.

Bhat believes the benefits stem partly from increased blood flow to the brain’s prefrontal cortex during exercise and is seeking federal funding to expand her research with neuroimaging.

“Post-exercise, you will see improved attention span and learning ability,” she says. “I don’t think it’s happening enough—especially at the middle-school level.” 🐦

—Amy Cherry, AS25M

MINING FOR PEACE

As global demand for critical minerals like lithium, cobalt and rare earth elements continues to grow, UD professor Saleem Ali is calling for a new approach: a global minerals trust for the Green Transition.

Outlined in *Science* and a United Nations policy brief, Ali’s proposal includes provisions for recycled material also entering the trust and a stockpile that would maintain price stability. A trust would have both suppliers and consumers as trustees.

“Without a shared framework, we risk deepening global inequalities, triggering unnecessary resource conflicts and undermining our ability to deliver on sustainable energy and infrastructure goals,” says Ali, Blue and Gold Distinguished Professor of Energy and the Environment.

The trust would allow countries to maintain sovereignty over their resources while prioritizing minerals for green technologies and reducing politicized disruptions.

“This is not just an environmental case, it’s an economic one, too,” Ali says. “The minerals trust is a cooperative way to address supply constraints, rather than having geopolitical conflicts over resources that we need for civilizational sustainability.” 🐦

—Adam Thomas



KATHY F. ATKINSON



FORGING INNOVATION FOR NATIONAL SECURITY

The University of Delaware and the U.S. Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command (DEVCOM) Chemical Biological Center signed a five-year educational partnership agreement to deepen joint research, workforce development and innovation.

The agreement, signed at UD's FinTech Innovation Hub, enables scientific exchange and shared intellectual property in areas like biomanufacturing, materials science and robotics. DEVCOM CBC Director Michael Bailey (pictured above, right) and UD Vice President for Research Miguel Garcia-Diaz (pictured above, left) formalized the collaboration, highlighting the potential for breakthrough innovations.

"This kind of partnership is the oil, the lubricant, that allows us to do our jobs more effectively to transform the way we secure and defend our nation and world," says Bailey.

Several UD researchers—including April Kloxin, Catherine Fromen, Karl Booksh, Tatyana Polenova, Joel Rosenthal and Thomas H. Epps, III—shared projects exploring pathogen detection, immune response, chemical sensors and sustainable materials.

For example, Epps' lab is collaborating with DEVCOM CBC to develop advanced polymers and recycle polyurethane waste into protective coatings for military use.

Army researchers, many of them UD alumni, also learned about efforts to expand biomanufacturing capabilities and workforce training.

"The University of Delaware is deeply grateful for our partnership with DEVCOM CBC, based on a shared commitment to innovation and a vibrant spirit of collaboration," says Garcia-Diaz. "We look forward to building on our strong history to further advance critical initiatives in support of America's defense." 🐦

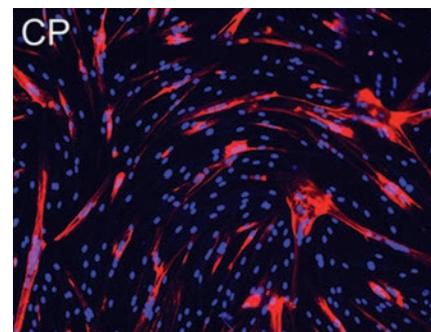
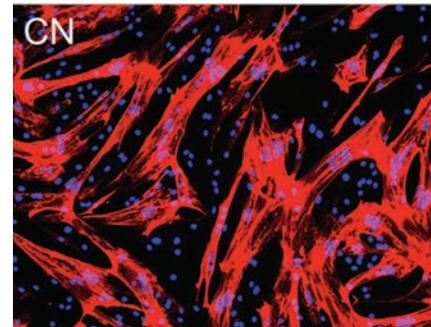
—Karen Roberts, AS90, 21M

A NEW CLUE TO CEREBRAL PALSY

Imagine your body's instructions are delivered like messages on an assembly line. Most take a straight path. But sometimes, the message loops back on itself—forming a mysterious circular RNA. Once dismissed as junk, these loops may hold powerful secrets.

UD Professor Mona Batish is studying one such loop, circNFI, which seems to be reduced in the muscle cells of children with cerebral palsy (CP). Without enough circNFI, a crucial protein for muscle growth (MEF2C) gets made in very low amounts—possibly explaining some of the muscle dysfunctions seen in CP.

Batish's research offers a glimpse into the molecular story behind CP and a hopeful path forward: new diagnostic tools that catch the condition earlier—and maybe, one day, treatments that help muscles grow stronger. 🐦



These images show the difference in muscle cell fusion between healthy tissue and tissue affected by cerebral palsy. Above, normal muscle cells successfully fuse to form muscle fibers (shown in red). Below, muscle cells from individuals with cerebral palsy show a reduced ability to fuse, resulting in fewer muscle fibers.



INNOVATION FOR THE NATION

BLUE HENS BRING RESEARCH TO WASHINGTON

By Beth Miller

Sometimes, a text or email will do. But when the stakes are high—when research funding hangs in the balance and policy decisions ripple across the country—there’s nothing like showing up in person. That’s the idea behind UD Day in D.C., a biannual event where University of Delaware scientists, students and scholars head to Capitol Hill to share the transformative power of federally funded research.

Hosted in June by U.S. Sen. Chris Coons, the seventh installment of UD Day filled the Hart Senate Office Building with Blue Hen brainpower. Faculty and students showcased hands-on exhibits, models and demonstrations under the theme “Innovation for the Nation,” illustrating how their work is driving discoveries in health care, defense, agriculture, climate science, space exploration and more.

“It’s really exciting to witness just a glimpse of the lifesaving and world-enhancing research happening around UD,” said U.S. Rep. Sarah McBride, who represents Delaware and serves on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee. “Delaware is lucky to have this legacy institution as a central hub of education, research and economic activity.”

That impact is felt well beyond campus. Just ask Martin Mitchell, AS91, a former Air Force member who likened the event to an “adult science fair.”

“You can see the real-world impact to help people,” said Mitchell, who now teaches at American University’s Washington College of Law and was especially intrigued by research into traumatic brain injury and polymer-based space suits.

A SHOWCASE OF SOLUTIONS

Throughout the afternoon, UD teams showed attendees the kind of innovation that turns curiosity into change. In one corner, a robotic dog, complete with lifelike movements, drew curious onlookers and plenty of questions. Mechanical engineering professor Bert Tanner and doctoral student Athanasios Avgeris, EG31PhD, explained how their team is improving the robot's perception, autonomy and usefulness in tough environments, from storm-ravaged coastlines to post-disaster rubble.

"It's a race against the clock," said Tanner, describing how these robots could help with beach mapping before major storms roll in.

Nearby, researchers shared advances in wearable technology, smart sensors, sustainable plastics, even space-ready microbes. Doctoral student Ross Klauer, EG28PhD, studies how plastic-eating microbes from mealworms might help solve environmental challenges.

"Sharing the science is almost more important than doing the science," he said.

That philosophy resonated with Jonathan Skovholt, AS05, a physics alumnus now working in patent research. "UD is on the forefront," he said, calling out plastic innovations from Klauer and Professor LaShanda Korley, who is developing ways to break down plastics for easier reuse and recycling.

RESEARCH WITH REACH

UD's partnerships span academia, government and the private sector, and they aim to transform lives for generations.

That message hit home for many alumni, including Robin Reath, AS84, who was amazed by the range of work underway, from laser analysis of wooden art objects to NASA-funded space exploration.

"The University of Delaware meant a lot to me," she said. "And, it is still very special to me."

As federal support for research faces increasing uncertainty, advocates like Rep. McBride stressed the urgency of protecting what's been built.

"It's important to make it clear that developing a diverse talent pipeline, and fostering the talents of scientists, engineers and academics of all backgrounds, is not just symbolically good—it's our country's competitive advantage," she said.

As the former president of the National Academy of Engineering, alumnus John Anderson, EG67, couldn't agree more.

"If you stop funding this stuff, it's not just the research you'll lose," he said. "You'll lose future innovators." 🐦



PHOTOS BY KATHY F. ATKINSON

**“YOU CAN SEE THE REAL-WORLD
IMPACT TO HELP PEOPLE.”**

—Martin Mitchell, AS91

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

OCTOBER 2025

BREAKING NEWS

BY DIANE STOPYRA

BLUE HEN REPORTERS
MEET A VOLATILE
MOMENT WITH THE
POWER OF THE PEN.

KATHY F. ATKINSON



"I try not to worry about the state of the industry too much," says *News Journal* reporter, Brandon Holvek, AS19. "I just do the best I can at the job I do."



Of course Superman is a journalist.

Between Lycra-clad heroes and ink-stained reporters, parallels abound. Both run toward danger. Both expose wrongdoing. And, perhaps most crucially, both safeguard democracy. (Or, in vintage comic-book parlance: “Truth, justice and the American way!”)

It only follows that reporters have their kryptonite, too—not a glowing green mineral, but a perfect storm of factors wreaking havoc within the global media ecosystem. While the news industry navigates treacherous terrain, UD-trained journalists are helping restore faith in a profession under fire—no capes necessary.

“Blue Hens give me hope,” says Lydia Timmins, professor of journalism and a former broadcast news reporter and producer for NBC10. “It’s not always a flashy, red-carpet lifestyle, but they’re out there every day—heads down, doing the work—dedicated to getting this right.”

The threats to the industry are multilayered, but much of the problem can be distilled into one word: moolah. Reporting costs money, and in this digital universe, few people want to pay. (One recent study found that only 16% of Americans shell out for a news subscription, versus 22% for Netflix.) Nearly 10,000 American journalists have been laid off in the last three years—and thousands more are jumping ship.

Seeing opportunity in this grim landscape, hedge funds that value profit over journalistic integrity have swooped in. They’ve consolidated media companies and, in turn, homogenized the news. Stories are duplicated across markets. Diverse perspectives are increasingly sparse. And the resulting echo chamber? Inescapable.

“If this trajectory continues, we are headed for catastrophe,” says UD Professor Danilo Yanich, who’s been studying news consolidation for 20 years. “In a democracy, we gamble everything on an informed electorate, which you don’t have when a small number of firms control the press.”

No, it’s not the *Daily Planet* you need to worry about (at least not as urgently). The less considered—and arguably most important—outlets are disappearing at warp speed.

“Local news is on a downward trajectory,” says Nancy Karibjanian, AS80, director of UD’s journalism program and the face of Delaware television news for more than two decades. “National stories are easier to distribute, but they don’t tell you if your sewer rates have gone up due to mismanagement. While everyone is focused on what’s happening in D.C., people are losing their power.”

As outlets fold, information vacuums are increasingly filled by internet platforms—fertile territory for disinformation. Social media algorithms are pushing users deeper into information silos. And journalists, traditionally the watchdogs of truth, are roiling in a sea of fabrication.

continued on page 19

“Keep faith—in your talent, in the path you’ve chosen, in yourself. This work has meaning, and you can make a difference.”

Mentored to Make a Difference

Growing up in public housing in North Philadelphia, one of the country’s most violent neighborhoods, Richard Jones, AS93, found refuge in newspapers. His mother didn’t want him “running the streets,” he says, so he spent countless hours poring over *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and other papers. He felt captivated by the broadsheets and their mandate of holding power to account. At the same time, he recognized a distressing reality: “The world I saw in those pages didn’t always match what I saw outside my window—journalists seemed to enter communities like mine only when things went wrong. I wanted to tell stories in three dimensions.” Inspired partly by prolific columnist and late UD journalism professor Chuck Stone, Jones enrolled at UD, where he found mentors who “worked their guts out for their students.” And he later applied their guidance at *The New York Times*, where his series on the failings of the child welfare system helped prompt the New Jersey state legislature to pour \$1 billion into



RICHARD JONES

COURTESY OF RICHARD JONES

an overhaul. Today, he works as managing editor of opinion for the *Inquirer*, where he platforms diverse voices from across the city—including his old stomping grounds. For a new generation of kids poring over broadsheets (yes, they’re out there), Jones offers this advice: “Keep the faith—in your talent, in the path you’ve chosen, in yourself. This work has meaning, and you can make a difference.”



Like Your Local News

Your hometown paper is in trouble. Without it, so are you. Below, seven reasons to subscribe.

1 Protect Your Town

Research shows the mere presence of a watchdog reporter keeps public officials in line. Want a more transparent, accountable government or fewer backroom deals? The pen holds power.

3 Boost Civic Engagement

When people have access to solid local reporting, they're more likely to attend meetings and to vote—not just for a political party, but for the candidate who represents their interests. Participation goes up; polarization, down.

5 Invest in Truth

Fake news! Clickbait! Sensationalism! Whatever your gripe with the media, supporting local journalism protects you and your community. As the foundation, robust community-based reporting helps ensure the health of the entire information system.

2 Preserve the Past

Local news doesn't just chronicle events—it captures the values and priorities of a community. It's less about recording the annual tomato festival, more about offering future generations a chance to know—and learn from—their elders.

4 Build Community

In places where local outlets thrive, neighbors tend to be more, well, neighborly. Think higher levels of trust and a shared sense of identity. One Blue Hen strengthening those communal bonds: Allison Taylor Levine, EHD03M, founder, publisher and CEO of *Spotlight Delaware*.

6 Enjoy Literary Craft

Local journalism can be a narrative *tour de force*—voice-driven and emotionally attuned. Consider the work of Doug Donovan, AS93, and Lloyd Fox, AS88, who won a Local Reporting Pulitzer for exposing a Netflix-worthy mayoral scandal in the *Baltimore Sun*.

How Free is Your Speech?

BY DIANE STOPYRA

When it comes to press freedom, “The U.S. talks a big game,” says Jennifer Lambe, associate professor of communication specializing in First Amendment rights. But the reality? The country ranks 55th on this metric—its worst ever rating—according to the 2024 World Press Freedom Index. In addition to the collapse of local news, reasons for the decline include a lack of public trust in media, government policies that limit coverage and rising threats facing reporters. Reversing the trend requires political will and public support for new journalism models (more hyperlocal outlets, nonprofit reporting). Rest assured, this IS possible. “The state of the media—the falling apart of what once was—feels really awful right now,” Lambe says. “But it opens the door for reimagining.”

7 Have Fun!

Major networks aren't covering dustups at the pickleball court—or why there's a goat loose on Main Street. Local outlets capture those humorous, absurd, colorful, fully human moments that make a place—your place—feel alive.



Crossword

By Diane Stopyra

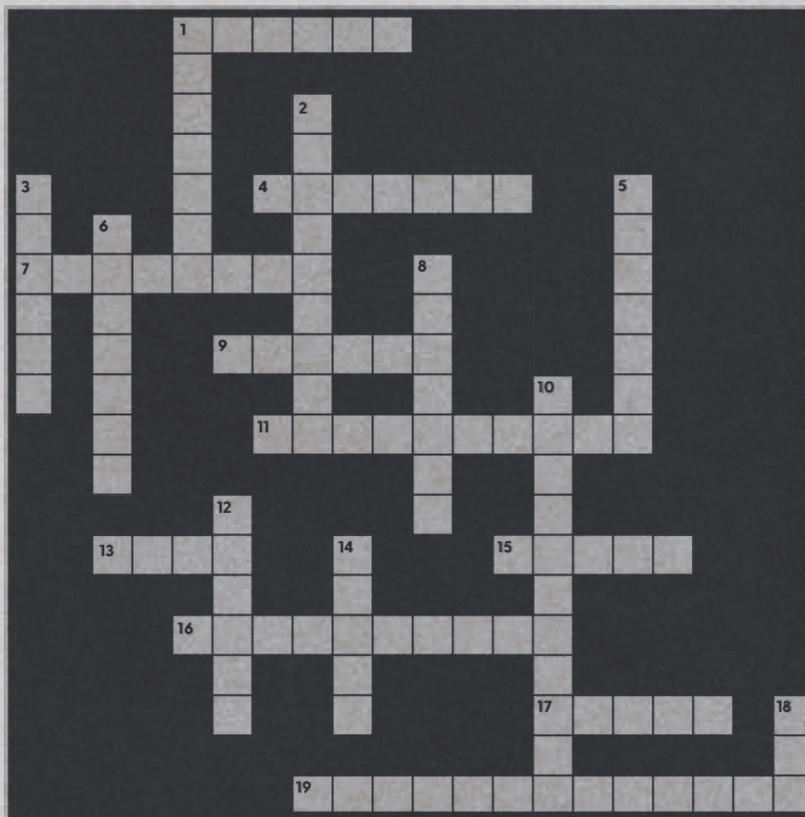
OCTOBER 23, 2025

ACROSS

- 1 For CBS, Bob Bicknell, AS90, covered the death of Purple Rain singer _____.
- 4 An _____ revenue model of journalism reduces reliance on rage clicks and ads.
- 7 A book by Professor Kevin Kerrane, *The World of Baseball* _____. Named by *Sports Illustrated* as one of the "100 Best Sports Books of All Time."
- 9 Freelancer Marina Koren, AS12, has covered all things outer space, including the search for _____.
- 11 At *The New York Times*, Carla Correa, AS01, grows a suite of newsroom programs meant to diversify the workforce. During the Olympics, she also covers the sport of _____.
- 13 Student media organization at UD, _____ Radio.
- 15 A new fellowship allows UD undergrads to cover the Delaware state house in _____.
- 16 At *National* _____, Brian Resnick, AS11, serves as science editor.
- 17 English Professor McKay Jenkins wrote *ContamiNation: My Quest to Stay Healthy in a _____ World*.
- 19 One way to combat disinformation and fake news: more _____ between competing outlets.

DOWN

- 1 UD's Student Multimedia Design Center offers studio space for recording a video or _____.
- 2 Global network of watchdog reporters founded in 1997 by Charles Lewis, AS75, 09H: The Center for Public _____.
- 3 The beat of journalist Jeff Gluck, AS02. (Think revved engines, checkered flags).
- 5 As president of _____, Michael Friedenberg, BE89, secured freedom of reporters imprisoned in Myanmar, Ethiopia and Afghanistan.
- 6 Late UD professor Chuck Stone, prominent columnist for the *Philadelphia Daily News*, once negotiated a _____ situation.



- 8 Former *Rolling Stone* reporter, Blue Hen Jancee Dunn, wrote *How Not to Hate Your _____ After Kids*.
- 10 As a student, Robert Bo Bartley, AS13, interviewed Joe Biden, AS65, 04H, onboard the vice presidential plane, _____.
- 12 Student-run fashion magazine.
- 14 Journalist Colleen Broomall, AS05, once played Meg Ryan's daughter on the soap opera *As the World _____*.
- 18 Author of influential books on writing style, UD Professor Professor Emeritus _____ Yagoda.

An extremely vocal set appears happy to see them drown. (Senior NPR correspondent Domenico Montanaro, AS01, divulged during an on-campus presentation that he receives death threats for his coverage of national politics.)

Public faith in traditional media has plunged to an all-time low due partly to a woeful lack of news literacy. Fringe sites are mistaken for credible sources, sensationalism for substance, and confusion reigns. Is that a journalist or an influencer? News or commentary? Confirmation of existing biases—or insights that challenge them?

The industry is culpable, too. Even respected outlets have fallen into a grave and all-too common trap: providing coverage that maps a little too neatly onto the demographics of the newsroom itself, sidelining stories—and people. This particular failing was a major topic of discussion at the University's recent Media and Democracy Summit, which

attracted thought leaders from across the country. During two days of discussion, scholars and journalists from *The Washington Post*, *New York Times*, NPR and other outlets gathered to advance a dialogue on the toxicity of the media environment and—crucially—where to go from here.

"I remember feeling betrayed by political journalism in 2016, by reporting that was not interested in your neighbor, not interested in context, nuance and country," Astead W. Herndon, national politics reporter for America's paper of record, told the crowd. "So I work to be a different type of proof point. I say, 'You're not talking to *The New York Times*; you're talking to me. If you think there's something we won't print or say, try me.'"

Events like this are just one way UD is equipping a new generation of muckrakers with tools needed to meet this unprecedented moment. Every year, nearly 150

continued on page 22

You've got the fire of Yo
at game day. Channel
energy—but try no
bulldoze your group pro

Taurus

APR. 20-M
Like a comfy seat in
Morris, you crave stab
But this week, step ou
your comfort zone.

Gemini

MAY. 21-A
Your dual nature is show
half of you wants to stud
other half wants to he
Main Street. Balance,
Hen. Balance.

Cancer

JUN. 21-JU
Feeling nostalgic? Ta
walk across The Green
past may tug at your fea
but you're still flying for

Leo

JULY. 23-AUG. 22
You light up like a F
night at Delaware Stad
Go ahead and shine—
don't blind the flock.

Virgo

AUG. 2-SEP. 22
Organization is your s
power. Just remember: n
everything can be color-c
Embrace a little chaos—
be even a late-night nache

Libra

SEP. 23-OCT. 23
You seek the harr
a perfect
scheduling
not b
th



News Literacy 101

How a Savvy Consumer Tackles the Day



Morning

Diversify

Peruse multiple sources to grasp what's being emphasized and how. Sticking to one outlet (no matter which!) leads to gaps in understanding.

AllSides.com helps parse media bias.

Subscribe to the News Literacy Project's newsletter, *newslit.org*, approved by UD experts.

Flag 'Em

Use "read later" tools to mark articles for a deeper dive later on. When selecting an outlet to trust, look for an independent source with a history of accountability.



Lunch

Engage in civil discussion over the watercooler. Test your interpretations against other people's perspectives.

Check in With Social

Something going viral? Verify using a reverse image search or trusted fact-checker (*PolitiFact.com*). Follow reporters to see how they report—not just the end result.

Circle Back

Go back to those earlier headlines to note whether they've been updated or corrected. (Make sure to differentiate between articles, opinion pieces, advertising and sponsored content.)



Evening

Go long

Grab a cold one or cup of tea and dive into one of the in-depth articles you flagged earlier, or listen to a podcast to understand the backstory behind the headlines.

Avoid overexposure to breaking news (see next page) with a good book or Netflix binge (we won't tell).

Reflect on your own habits. Did the sources you relied on today challenge any assumptions?

Stop the Scroll

When Staying Informed Becomes Toxic

BY DIANE STOPYRA

Put down the phone and slowly back away from your newsfeed. So-called doomscrolling—continually absorbing negative news in rapid-fire fashion, typically on social media—has become an increasingly popular pastime. But research suggests the habit is wreaking havoc on your health. From an evolutionary perspective, zeroing in on threats is helpful; if cave-dwelling ancestors could see a saber-toothed predator coming, they were more likely to keep their limbs. But the practice is “not so helpful when the threat we’re monitoring is halfway around the world,” says Morgan Ellithorpe, associate professor of communication at UD. Especially for those with anxiety or depression—a set predisposed to doomscroll—keeping tabs on remote, uncontrollable crises can spike cortisol levels and reinforce negative thinking, sometimes disrupting work and relationships. Ellithorpe’s advice for breaking free? Put your scrolling on a clock: “Find the amount of time that works for you—and stick to it.”



Peter Bailey, AS02, credits late Prof. Dennis Jackson for sparking his journalism passion. Photo by Steven Sylvestre, NiteCap Media.

Paradise Discovered

Ask most Americans what comes to mind when they picture the U.S. Virgin Islands, and they’ll likely mention Insta-worthy beaches. Peter Bailey, AS02, gets it—he grew up on the lush cliff faces of St. Thomas. But his home is more than a postcard; it’s a place rooted in revolution and resilience—with stories to tell.

“Yet growing up there, I felt invisible,” Bailey says. “CNN wouldn’t cover us. My mission is to shed some light.”

Today, Bailey and fellow Blue Hen Jed JohnHope, EG03, run Yellow Cedar Media—an independent news outlet named for the Virgin Islands’ hardy state flower. The platform centers local voices, with an emphasis on cultural preservation, civic dialogue, and—crucially—joy.

“This is about unearthing stories for future generations,” Bailey says. “If you don’t own your story, someone else will. That’s how you lose power.”

As a student at UD, Bailey forged his path in journalism—taking on internships, connecting with mentors like the late Dennis Jackson, and eventually landing jobs at *Newsweek*, *Newsday* and *Time*. But it was at the *Miami Herald* where he found his voice reporting on overlooked communities. The work led to a co-authored biography with rapper Trick Daddy and eventually his own media company, NiteCap.

After hurricanes Irma and Maria devastated the Virgin Islands in 2017 (“Cows were swirling in the wind”), Bailey launched an award-winning documentary series, *Paradise Discovered*, that chronicled the rebuilding of the islands and, more broadly, their cultural preservation. This laid the foundation for Yellow Cedar, which offers something missing from the 24/7 news cycle: context and humanity.

“If my media keeps showing me pain and suffering and war and death, I become that,” Bailey says. “We’ve got to get people hooked on beauty again.”

“Avoid overexposure to breaking news with a good book or Netflix binge.”

undergraduates go through the University's journalism program, a small-but-mighty minor that affords one-on-one attention from seasoned—and impassioned—faculty. Take Pulitzer-grant-winning journalist and UD Associate Professor Dawn Fallik—she's been known to facilitate student coverage of UD sports for *The New York Times*, and she's set up interviews with the likes of Maya Angelou and Super Bowl MVP Joe Flacco, BE08; she's still waiting on a response from Harry Styles.

Unlike at some larger schools, experiential learning opportunities are available for all. (Even freshmen write for *The Review*, one of the nation's 10 best non-daily college newspapers, per the Associated Collegiate Press.) And because of UD's location between three major metropolises, students regularly intern at major publications—*Martha Stewart* in New York, *National Geographic* in D.C., WHYY in Philadelphia.

For these reasons and more, graduates leave UD prepared to upend the status quo—at outlets around the globe, covering everything from the war in Gaza to scandals at city hall, they're increasing transparency and establishing new models of journalism. Three alumni now at *The Washington Post*, Paul Kane, AS92, Todd Frankel, AS97, and David Hoffman, AS75, last year won the Pulitzer Prize; Kane and Frankel for their series on the AR-15 rifle in America, and Hoffman for commentary on the rise of authoritarian regimes across the globe. The latter credits UD with "an awakening... providing a window to a world on fire and an enthusiasm that journalism could change things."

For a new generation of Blue Hen reporters coming up the ranks, that spark is still alive—and straight off the broadsheet.

"A UD education is not just about getting a job or making money," Timmins says. "It's about giving back and considering other people. Inherently, that's what journalism does."

Up, up and away. 🐔



LARISSA VERONICA HEATHER, AS26

The Human Assignment

BY DIANE STOPYRA

UD senior Alex Keating, AS26, may become a reporter—or maybe not. Regardless, she's dedicating a major chunk of her Blue Hen experience to honing the craft: She serves as executive editor of *The Review* newspaper, she attended a media conference as a study abroad student in Greece and she's minoring in journalism. Storytelling, she says, is about seeing—truly—fellow humans. It's arguably the greatest vehicle at our disposal for nurturing empathy. "My peers have a similar outlook, and I have faith: This generation will improve our media landscape."

Hey,



ABC News associate producer Morgan Winsor, AS12, helped spark the release of Hotel Rwanda activist Paul Rusesabagina with an article that ended his solitary confinement. From on-the-ground coverage of missile strikes in Tel Aviv to reporting for *Good Morning America*, Winsor has no shortage of career highlights—but says, "I like to think my best work is yet to come." Despite industry headwinds, she's optimistic: "Media organizations need to find new ways to adapt. It's going to be a wild ride." Photo courtesy of Morgan Winsor.

"My mentors at UD made me a better journalist—and a better person."

“My peers have a similar outlook, and I have faith: This generation will improve our media landscape.”



I think they misunderstood the SMELL test.

**ASK
YOURSELF**

Who's the writer's **SOURCE**? What is their **MOTIVATION**?
What is their **EVIDENCE**? Does the piece use **LOGIC**?
What information has been **LEFT OUT**... and why?

There's Hope!

Covering the Latin Ledger

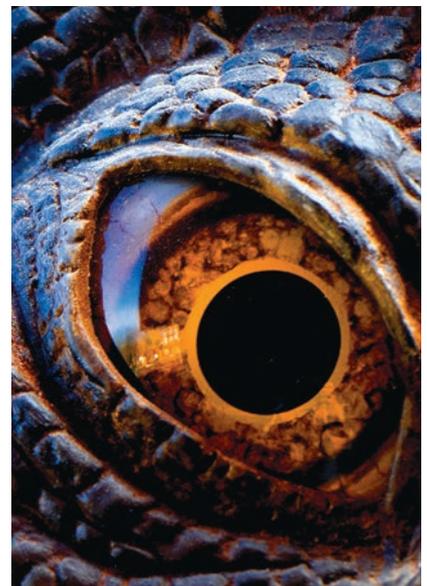
BY DIANE STOPYRA

Patrick Gillespie, AS12, still remembers the feel of his protective vest. The sight of tear gas. The smell of the battered hospital where he reported on a boy dying of sepsis. Covering Venezuela's humanitarian crisis for CNN in 2017 was grueling—but it also deepened two passions sparked at UD: storytelling and Latin America. “My time at the University was defining in so many ways,” he says. “I can't stress how pivotal it was.” As an undergrad, Gillespie interned with the *Connecticut Post*, though his early assignments weren't exactly headline material. So Professor Dawn Fallik called the editor and advocated

for more ambitious features. The resulting front-page story led to his next job—and then the next. At CNN, he raised his hand for any assignment tied to Latin America. He'd fallen in love with the region during a study abroad trip to Argentina and a post-graduation year in the Land of Silver. (Ask him about blowing multiple tires while road-tripping through Patagonia.) Now he's back as Bloomberg's Argentina bureau chief, leading a team of eight and advocating for his reporters the way Fallik once advocated for him. “My mentors at UD made me a better journalist—and a better person.”

ERICA CANEPA





THE DAY OF THE DINOSAUR

BY DIANE STOPYRA

A homicidal camel once chased Kenneth Lacovara onto a boulder in China's Gobi Desert. (The animal ran around the base of the rock for a solid 45 minutes before petering out and giving up.) Call it an occupational hazard. A globally renowned paleontologist and University of Delaware alumnus, Lacovara has seen his share of adventure while excavating dinosaur bones around the globe (turn the page for more on that). But it's the Blue Hen's latest endeavor that might just be his greatest professional thrill: building from scratch a world-

class institution where ancient beasts come to life. Last spring, the Edelman Fossil Park and Museum in southern New Jersey opened its doors to the public.

"This is a totally different kind of rush," says Lacovara, EOE97PhD, founding executive director of the museum and man who's appeared in more than 20 documentaries. "The thought of what this will do for kids, for the community, for decades or even centuries to come—it's more than a carpenter's son from New Jersey could ever expect."



"DINOSAURS HAD THEIR OWN TRAGEDIES AND TRIUMPHS—JUST LIKE THE REST OF US."

—KENNETH LACOVARA, EDE97PHD



A modern-day Indiana Jones, Lacovara's far-flung explorations have forever altered the paleontological landscape—in Patagonia, he earned global acclaim for uncovering the skeleton of 65-ton *Dreadnoughtus*, among the biggest dinosaurs ever excavated. But, when it comes to advancing his field, the scientist has also devoted much time to another type of exotic locale: New Jersey. ("People tend to think of Montana or Wyoming when they think of dinosaurs," he says. "But we had a full bounty of them living

right here.") For the last 17 years, Lacovara has excavated a four-acre quarry in the small town of Mantua. Originally dug by a mining company to provide farmers with marl, a sandy green soil used as fertilizer, the site has also revealed the Mesozoic motherload. He and his team have so far uncovered more than 100,000 fossils representing over 100 extinct species from 66 million years ago—the moment just before the asteroid struck.

"This has become the best window into this time anywhere in the world," Lacovara says. "It's a globally important deposit we have right here."

Nearly one decade ago, with the closing of the paleontologist-friendly mining company, a dreaded possibility loomed: This invaluable spot could be turned into a strip mall or other development. So Lacovara intervened. As founding dean of the School of Earth and Environment at Rowan University, he spearheaded the institution's 2016 effort to acquire the quarry and surrounding land. Then, the work of building a fossil park and museum began. Master plans were drawn up, architects were hired (one of these firms, KSS, has also done work for UD) and funds for the \$75 million project were raised. According to Ric Edelman, a major donor along with wife Jene, the final result is "mind blowing. What Ken has delivered is a world-class facility on par with the most fabulous museums you'll find anywhere in the world." Indeed, *Smithsonian* magazine named this one of the most anticipated museum openings of 2025.



So... what makes it so special? Visitors to the 65-acre site (200,000 are anticipated annually) dig for their own fossils in a designated area of the quarry, “and any kid or grandparent who isn’t afraid to get their hands dirty will make a legit discovery... literally something no human has seen before,” Lacovara says. The museum that overlooks this quarry is a 44,000-square-foot structure made largely of sustainable accoya wood, powered by clean energy from geothermal wells and—thanks to input from a regional paleobotanist—landscaped only with plants native to the area at the time of the asteroid strike. (If that detail impresses, check out the on-site cafe complete with mosquito macaroons—hat tip, *Jurassic Park*.)

Inside, visitors watch scientists conserve and stabilize ancient fossils, and they take part in a virtual reality experience that transports participants back to the Age of Dinosaurs. But the main attractions are life-size replicas of extinct creatures, works of terrifying art crafted over a three-year period by world-renowned paleoartist Gary Stabb.

“They show the gritty side of dinosaur life,” Lacovara says. “Dinosaurs were authentic beings that lived under their own auspices and had their own challenges and tragedies and triumphs—just like the rest of us.”

In one exhibit, visitors come face to face (or face to duck bill) with dinos that roamed the eastern seaboard of North America. (Contrary to popular belief, that bulky plant eater wasn’t a gentle giant: “It doesn’t want to eat you; it just wants to kill you.”)

Another exhibit features aquatic creatures that swam through the actual site of the museum 66 millions years ago, including a 55-foot mosasaur with a nightmare-inducing jawline.

When Lacovara moves through the space, his passion is palpable. “Say hello to your grandmother,” he joked on a recent tour, pointing to a small, furry mammal called a synapsid. “This is the ancestor of everything with a uterus.” That hunk of tyrannosaurus rex poop? He coaxed folks at Canada’s Royal Saskatchewan Museum into 3-D printing it for him by “being very nice.”

The Blue Hen largely attributes his ability to curate such a herculean project to his time at UD, where he earned a P.h.D. from the geological sciences department in 1997.

“In addition to the technical knowledge, I learned how to take on a big, challenging task and get to the finish line,” he says, adding: “I never thought building a giant museum from scratch would be easy, but I’m honestly not that interested in easy.”

Still, there’s much work left to do. One of the museum’s goals is opening eyes to a difficult reality: If dinosaurs could perish, so, too, can another dominant group: *Homo sapiens*. Planet Earth has faced five mass extinction events to date, and we’re now in the midst of a sixth. Because of climate change and other human-driven factors, species are dying off at an unprecedented rate.

“This isn’t about saving cute panda bears,” Lacovara says. “This is about protecting the organisms that make our lives on



this planet possible. It would be very foolish not to tend to this little lifeboat on which we find ourselves.”

But it’s not all doom and gloom. In one hall, visitors tap into resources for taking action, and they hear inspiring stories from around the globe. One example comes from Johannes Fritz, a biologist in Europe who recognized the plight of the bald ibis species. Because these birds came close to extinction, they have no wild ancestors to teach them about migration. So Fritz collects their eggs and cares for the babies until they trust him as a foster parent. Then he leads the birds across the sky. Every year, he pilots an ultralight aircraft (read: a kite with a motor), and they follow him nearly 2,000 miles over the Alps from Austria to Spain.

Hope is baked into the museum’s mission.

“We want to give people this sense of awe and wonder and gratitude that they live on this incredible planet,” says Lacovara, adding that the chances of Earth even existing are “very slim.” And the chances of one particular species on this planet—or one particular person? Almost zero.

“Yet here you are,” he says. “What are you going to do with this great fortune?”

As for Lacovara, there’s plenty more he’d like to achieve: places left to dig, books left to write and, luckily for dino fans, plans left to execute for the Edelman Fossil Park and Museum.

“This,” he says, the long neck of a sauropod rising above him, “is only phase one.” 🐦

LACOVARA'S TOP FOUR DEATH-DEFYING MOMENTS

A GRAVE ERROR

A man in Egypt once mistook a shovel-wielding Lacovara for a grave robber—and came at him with a sword. Fortunately, the paleontologist was able to (quickly!) connect via walkie-talkie with a local colleague who could translate for the Blue Hen... and avoid catastrophe.

THE PALEO DIET

When it comes to explorers, Lacovara is right up there with Neil Armstrong and Jane Goodall (all three have been recipients of the prestigious Explorers Club Medal). But even superhuman adventurers are susceptible to tummy trouble. “I’ve had food poisoning on every continent,” Lacovara says, recalling some especially gray-looking dumplings in the Gobi Desert.

CLIFFHANGER

In Wyoming, Lacovara found a 40-pound rock imprinted with flying reptile tracks. With the slab on his back, he continued his climb up a 40-foot cliff face—until the cliff started crumbling in his hands. Slowly, he managed to find usable holds—and save the fossil, now in the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History.

WILD ENCOUNTERS

Chased by a bull in Scotland? Check. Sized up by a venomous pit viper in the Bahariya Oasis, six hours from a hospital? Check. But nothing beats that time in Montana when Lacovara felt his way back to camp through sage brush during a lightning storm—hidden rattlesnakes shaking their tails beside him.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF EDELMAN FOSSIL PARK AND MUSEUM OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY

LEADING EDGE

By Artika Casini, AS05



On the site where McKinly Laboratory once stood, a striking glass-and-brick structure now emerges. Building X is UD's newest and most collaborative teaching and research facility, a four-story, 132,000-square-foot complex that brings students and researchers in neuroscience, biology, quantum science, psychology and engineering under one roof. Gone are the traditional departmental silos. In their place: open labs, flexible workspaces and common areas designed to cultivate conversation and catalyze discovery.

"There is going to be some magical work coming out of here," says Interim President Laura Carlson.

The facility—the temporary "X" in its name representing its vast potential—is organized around three central themes: Mind, Brain and Behavior; Models and Mechanisms of Human Disease; and Quantum Science. These focus areas guide everything from lab layouts to faculty recruitment. The space also includes more than 35 cutting-edge research and teaching labs, a rooftop solar array and a skybridge connecting to the University's imaging center.

Support for Building X is already shaping its impact. UD is matching contributions of \$2,500 or more. At the \$12,500

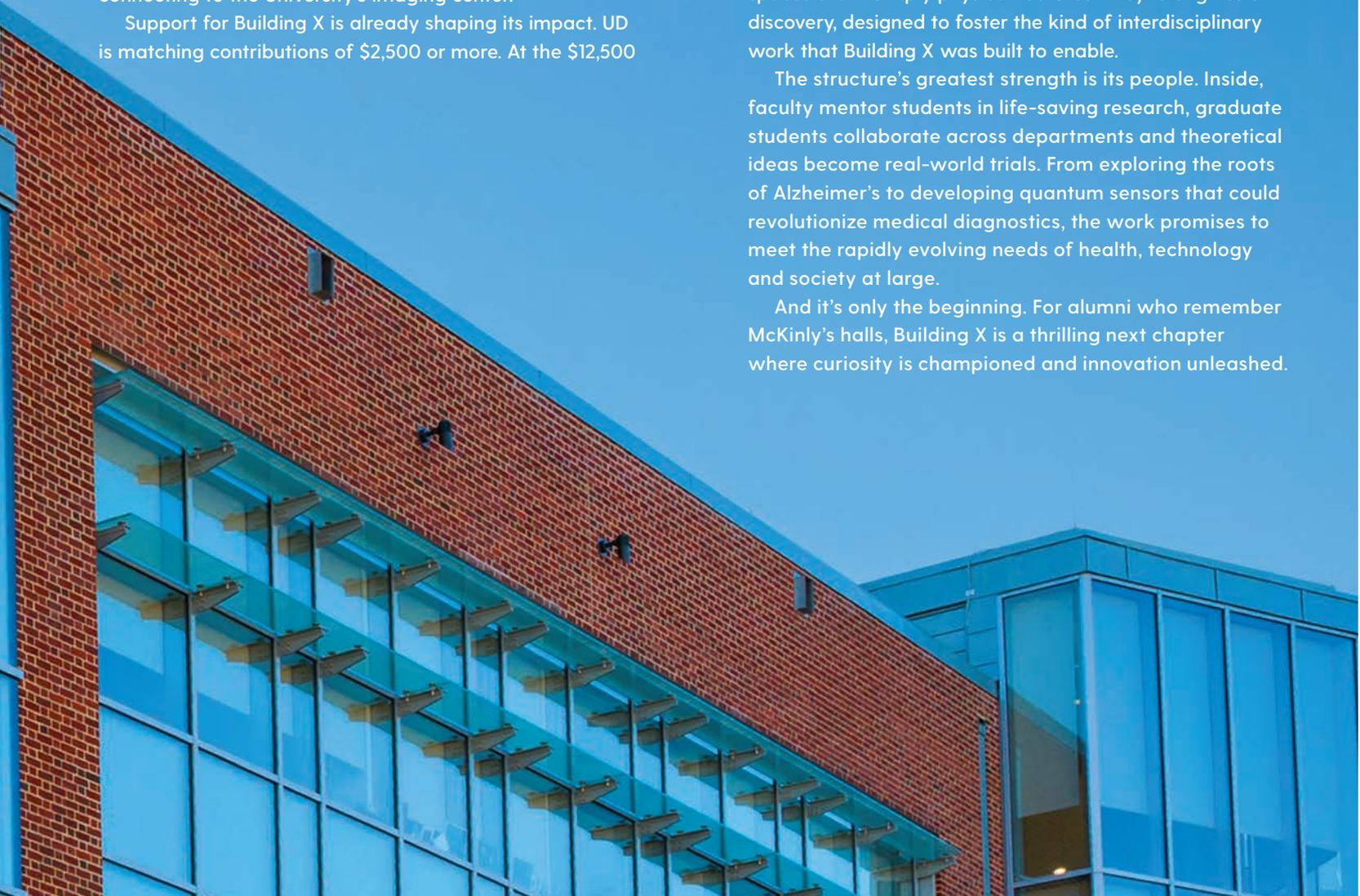
PHOTOS BY EVAN KRAPE



level, donors can help establish a faculty office; \$10,000 funds a research station; \$5,000 supports an exterior bench; and \$2,500 equips a graduate study carrel. These spaces aren't simply physical features—they're engines of discovery, designed to foster the kind of interdisciplinary work that Building X was built to enable.

The structure's greatest strength is its people. Inside, faculty mentor students in life-saving research, graduate students collaborate across departments and theoretical ideas become real-world trials. From exploring the roots of Alzheimer's to developing quantum sensors that could revolutionize medical diagnostics, the work promises to meet the rapidly evolving needs of health, technology and society at large.

And it's only the beginning. For alumni who remember McKinly's halls, Building X is a thrilling next chapter where curiosity is championed and innovation unleashed.



WELCOME TO BUILDING X, WHERE WE ASK WHY

Why does the brain work like it does, allowing us to move, think, remember, decide, connect and heal? Here, in UD's still-unnamed Building X, researchers dive into the neural, genetic and psychological roots of human behavior, asking bold questions to better understand who we are and how we thrive. Here, quantum scientists explore the fundamental principles of matter and energy to unlock the mysteries of the universe, bringing science, physics, materials science and biophysics into unprecedented conversation. Here, the future of human potential is not just imagined—it's discovered. 🐦



132,000
SQUARE FEET OF
STATE-OF-THE-ART
RESEARCH SPACE

HOW CAN BRAIN SCIENCE UNCOVER AND REDUCE SOCIAL BIAS?

Associate Professors Jasmin Cloutier and Jennifer Kubota use neuroscience to uncover how we form impressions, while Associate Professor Peter Mende-Siedlecki investigates how social perceptions affect healthcare and pain treatment.

HOW DOES THE BRAIN PROCESS RAPID VISUAL AND AUDITORY INFORMATION?

Professor Keith Schneider examines how people with dyslexia perceive rapidly changing information, offering insight into the roots of reading disorders.



HOUSES
66%
MORE FACULTY
THAN MCKINLY LAB

WHAT DOES THE DEVELOPING BRAIN REVEAL ABOUT RISING MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES?

Associate Professor Jeffrey Spielberg maps adolescent brain circuits to understand mood and anxiety disorders, especially in girls.

HOW DO GENES AND MOLECULES SHAPE DISEASE—AND POTENTIAL CURES?

Assistant Professors Jessica Tanis, Austin Keeler and Joohyun (Jason) Lim investigate the molecular mechanisms behind Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, chronic pain, TMJ disorders and osteoarthritis.

HOW DO WE REMEMBER WHO WE ARE—AND HOW DOES MEMORY SHAPE OUR FUTURE?

Assistant Professor Adrian Gilmore studies the neural basis of memory, while Associate Professor Tim Vickery explores how attention and memory influence and distort perception and learning.



1,000+
STUDENTS WILL
USE THIS
SPACE EACH YEAR



\$2,500

STARTING COST FOR NAMING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BUILDING
UDEL.EDU/GIVE/BUILDINGX

WHAT BRAIN MECHANISMS DRIVE RISKY, ADDICTIVE OR IMPULSIVE BEHAVIOR?

Associate Professor Naomi Sadeh and Professor Philip Gable explore how motivation, emotion and reward processing influence behaviors from substance use to time perception and self-control.

HOW DOES THE BRAIN ENABLE US TO INTERACT WITH A COMPLEX WORLD OF OBJECTS AND PEOPLE?

Assistant Professor Maryam Vaziri-Pashkam uses brain mapping and computational tools to study real-world visual perception.

HOW DOES THE BRAIN DISTINGUISH BETWEEN GOOD AND BAD—AND HOW DOES STRESS CHANGE THAT?

Assistant Professor Lisha Shao studies fruit flies to uncover how the brain shapes motivation and behavior through reward, offering insights into addiction, depression and eating disorders.



HERE, RESEARCHERS INVESTIGATE QUANTUM PHENOMENA IN EXTREME CONDITIONS—

UP TO 456°F

... AND AS HIGH AS

250,000 TIMES

THE STRENGTH OF EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD



HOW DOES LIGHT UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF ATOMS?

Professor Barry Walker and his students are exploring the quantum dance between light and matter, using laser pulses at one quintillionth of a second to probe atoms and molecules in real time.

ALUMNI NEWS



BLUE HENS ABROAD

Pack your bags—Blue Hens are going global! International trips allow UD alumni to explore the world together through curated travel experiences. These enriching journeys combine adventure, culture and connection with fellow UD graduates, turning every destination into a shared memory.





JOIN US

In 2026, the UD Alumni Association will offer exclusive travel experiences, including:

Grand Danube Passage

May 10, 2026 – May 24, 2026



Riches of the Emerald Isle

Sept. 27, 2026 – Oct. 7, 2026

For more information, email Alumni-Association@udel.edu or visit udel.edu/alumni-friends/travel

Photos counterclockwise from top left:

A view of Honfleur in France.

In downtown Honfleur, travelers pause during a guided walking tour. The port town in France's Normandy region is known for being both home and inspiration to artists like Claude Monet, Gustave Corbet and native son Eugène Boudin.

Blue Hens in Spain visit downtown Antequera, where the city's heritage is reflected in architectural elements from the Roman, Moorish, Gothic, Renaissance and baroque eras.

Travelers to Spain visit the dolmens in Ancient Antequera with views of the famous Lovers' Rock in the distance. A UNESCO World Heritage site, these megalithic monuments are thought to have been built between 3500 and 3000 B.C. by farmers in the valley.

After a private tour of a countryside vineyard, alumni in Ronda, Spain, sample fine wines and a homemade lunch prepared by the owners.

Blue Hens visit an olive museum in Greece and gain firsthand experience with a historic olive press.



FIELD OF DREAMS, ON TAP

Since the 1920s, the Hopkins family has farmed the same land in Havre de Grace, Maryland. What began as a dairy operation has evolved into a vibrant, multigenerational business producing sweet corn, cantaloupes, tomatoes and now, award-winning beer.

“Things change in farming and agriculture, and you have to change with them,” says David Hopkins, ANR79. In the 1970s, there were more than 100 dairy farms in Harford County, notes the plant and soil sciences graduate. “Now, maybe a half dozen are left.”

As the industry shifted, so did the family. Hopkins now grows grain crops like barley and corn, which his son, Aaron Hopkins, ANR12, uses to create craft brews at Hopkins Farm Brewery, founded in 2018.

Aaron’s interest in brewing began at UD, where a senior project asked students to pitch an agriculture-based business.

His idea: a farm-to-table restaurant. But a chance encounter with Dogfish Head founder Sam Calagione at a campus event sparked a pivot.

“That’s when it all started for me career-wise,” says Aaron. “It led me to change my project to a farm-to-table brewery.”

He launched Chesapeake Malting Company in 2014, followed by the brewery with his father, aunt and uncle as partners. Their beer—made with barley and corn grown on-site—has since earned national acclaim, including a 2024 gold medal at the World Beer Cup for their “Level Common,” named after their road.

“We always have ‘Field of Dreams’ on tap,” Aaron says of the light lager made from Hopkins Farm corn.

David still proudly claims his sweet corn is the best on the East Coast. When asked if the title is self-given, he grins.



PHOTOS BY KATHY F. ATKINSON

“Pretty much,” he says.

“The people awarded it,” Aaron adds, nodding toward their loyal customers and marveling at how far they’ve come.

“What we were able to do with the whole family involved is a lot bigger and more amazing than what I dreamed of while doing that project at UD,” he says.

“If Aaron hadn’t gone to the University of Delaware and met Sam,” David adds, “we might not be sitting here in this brewery today.” 🐦

—Molly Schafer

Top photo: David Hopkins, ANR79, and Aaron Hopkins, ANR12

OUT OF THE ASHES

How two Blue Hens are helping Californians preserve what fires couldn't destroy

They're not first responders or civil engineers. They're not trained counselors or shelter operators. But when wildfires swept through Southern California in January—killing 30, displacing more than 200,000 and reducing entire neighborhoods to rubble—Madison Brockman, AS19M, and Margalit Schindler, AS22M, stepped forward with a different kind of aid.

The two women are art conservators, graduates of the prestigious Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation. Now in private practice in Los Angeles, both are also part of an emerging volunteer group—Art Recovery Los Angeles (ARLA)—born after the fires to help residents salvage, stabilize and treat prized possessions that survived the smoke and flames.

At their first public clinic in March, roughly 50 conservators and 120 community members participated. The clinics, held again throughout the year, offer free assessments and demonstrations using HEPA vacuums, sponges and personal protective equipment. The time donated by volunteer conservators in the first two clinics alone was valued at more than \$50,000.

"It was overwhelmingly positive, with gratitude in all directions," says Schindler, chair of ARLA's board. "We were overwhelmed ... the need is beyond anything we'll ever meet."

Community members are limited to bringing one or two items per clinic, so they bring their most precious treasures. Conservators not only treat physical damage but also ask: "What does this object mean to you? What story are you rescuing from the rubble?"

They have responded, too, to sites with fragile heritage items, such as a mural revealed on a lone standing wall of a burned Pasadena synagogue, protecting it with Tyvek sheeting, then salvaging pieces for use after its demolition.

Both Brockman and Schindler continue to volunteer their skills as a way to offer expertise and empathy in crisis.

"This won't be the last disaster," Schindler reflects. "There will be floods, wildfires, mudslides. Being an established group will allow us to be a resource for people as we go forward." 🐔

—Beth Miller



Pictured at top: A hidden mural found on the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center.

Middle, Margalit Schindler, AS22M, samples pieces of the mural before the building's demolition.

Bottom image: Madison Brockman, AS19M, tests a framed item for soot and ash.

BLUE HEN EXCELLENCE

By Jack Truschel, AS20M, 23PhD

The University of Delaware Alumni Association has announced the 2025 recipients of the Alumni Wall of Fame and Outstanding Alumni Awards, as well as the Emalea Pusey Warner and Alexander J. Taylor Sr. Awards for Outstanding Seniors. These honors recognize remarkable leadership, service, academic achievement and commitment to the Blue Hen community.



Karl Lieberman, AS99

As global chief creative officer of Wieden+Kennedy, Karl Lieberman has helped shape some of the most iconic advertising campaigns in recent memory, from Dos Equis' "Most Interesting Man" to P&G's Emmy-winning "Thank You, Mom." He's also given back to UD, creating internship opportunities, hiring alumni, supporting scholarships for underrepresented students and establishing an enrichment program for experiential learning.

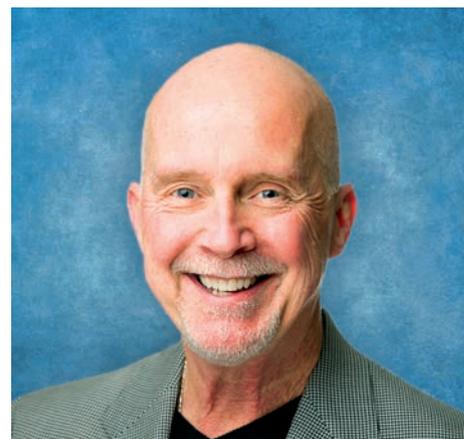
ALUMNI WALL OF FAME AWARDS

This honor was established in 1984 to recognize graduates with outstanding professional and public service achievements, community impact and long-lasting connection to UD.



Maj. Gen. James A. Benson, BE90

In January 2025, James Benson was sworn in as the first African American Adjutant General of the Delaware National Guard. A decorated leader with multiple deployments, he is also a tireless advocate for UD scholarships, helping to establish the Kappa Alpha Psi Scholarship in memory of Keith Richards, AS01, and playing a key role in fully endowing the James E. Newton Scholarship Fund. A former track athlete who was instrumental in founding the Nu Xi chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Benson now serves as an emergency management consultant with the U.S. Departments of Transportation and Agriculture.



Joe McDonough, AS83

After losing his son, Andrew, to leukemia in 2007, Joe McDonough founded The Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation. Now one of the world's largest childhood cancer charities, the foundation provided \$6 million in support to more than 4,000 families in 2024 alone. McDonough remains deeply connected to UD, where he met his wife, Christine, AS83, and is a key partner in UDance, which recently raised a record-breaking \$1.8 million.



Isabella Haigney, AS25 (left) and Grace Mahony, BSPA25

WARNER TAYLOR AWARDS

The Emalea Pusey Warner and Alexander J. Taylor Sr. Awards for Outstanding Seniors are presented annually to two students who demonstrate leadership and excellence in academics and community service.

Isabella Haigney, AS25

Recipient of the Emalea Pusey Warner Award, Isabella Haigney is an honors criminal justice graduate who used her personal experience to improve the lives of others. As UD's first Accessibility Senator, she helped launch a campus alert app, integrate disability discussions into first-year seminars and host Accessibility Town Halls. A passionate disability advocate and past president of the Student Government Association, Haigney aims to pursue a career in disability law. "The power to change perceptions and minds is one I feel I was given the ability to do," she says.

Grace Mahony, BSPA25

Grace Mahony, recipient of the Alexander J. Taylor Sr. Award, is an honors graduate who double majored in public policy and international relations. A World Scholar and student alumni ambassador, Mahony studied abroad in Rome, Copenhagen and Budapest, where she interned at a legal aid organization for refugees. On campus, she led tours, mentored peers and served as vice president of Phi Sigma Pi. Now attending Georgetown University to pursue a master's in foreign service, she plans "to continue to wear my Blue Hen name with pride." 🐔

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARDS

Since 1952, these awards have been presented annually to two outstanding alumni in recognition of their volunteerism to UD and/or the UDAA.



Carole Fleetwood Baker, EHD89

A longtime Blue Hen volunteer, Carole Baker serves as a regional alumni ambassador, Team 302 board member and member of the Mariners Community. She's been a top fundraiser for I Heart UD Giving Day and is a proud Delaware Diamonds Society member. She and her husband, Chris, EG89, are loyal football fans whose Blue Hen spirit has taken them to National Championship football games in Chattanooga in 2003 and Frisco in 2010.



Mary Ellen Payne, BE78, 80M

Following a 35-year career at Verizon, Mary Ellen Payne has become one of UD's most dedicated mentors. She has served in the Lerner Executive Mentoring Program since 2012 and received the Brad Scott Excellence in Mentoring Award in 2023. Payne has served on both the Dean's Advisory Board and the President's Leadership Council, and she played a pivotal role in establishing the Lerner Women's Leadership Initiative, which honored her with the inaugural Lerner Women's Leadership Initiative Catalyst Award in 2019.

CLASS NOTES



A life that took off: A freshman soccer player and member of Kappa Alpha, Smyth humbly admits that he wasn't an outstanding student, but his story would unfold far beyond the classroom. By graduation, he was married, his wife expecting the first of their four sons just as Smyth was about to be drafted. What followed was a long and dedicated Air Force career that took the Smyth family overseas. Two of his sons were born in Germany, and today, three call Sussex County home.

1960s



LT. COL. HOWARD (ED) SMYTH, AS62, of St. Petersburg, Fla., published *The March Storm of '62: Bethany Beach and Vicinity*, a photo collection of his beloved hometown.

GREER FIRESTONE, AS69, introduced a House Bill in Delaware to amend and strengthen the 2014 Grace Firestone

Act for Sudden Cardiac Awareness, which outlines procedures for dealing with sudden cardiac arrest in student athletes. Firestone lobbied for the original legislation after his daughter, **GRACE FIRESTONE, AS15**, (pictured at left with her father behind her), suffered sudden cardiac arrest two days after graduation. She is now a physician at UCLA Health.

1970s

KAREN BECKER MURTAGH, AS72, of West Chester, Pa., **DIANE SAVAGE THOMPSON, AS72**, of Park City, Utah, **EILEEN DANNEY CARZO, AS73**, of Wilmington, Del., and **MARTHA TOOMEY, EHD74**, of Newark, Del., have maintained a decade-long tradition of reuniting every Christmas (with a brief pause during COVID).

TOM COLEMAN, ANR73, 76, of Sussex County, Del., has retired after 49 years in production agriculture. Having recently sold his agronomy service company and completed a few years of contract work, he can now be found in his wood shop.

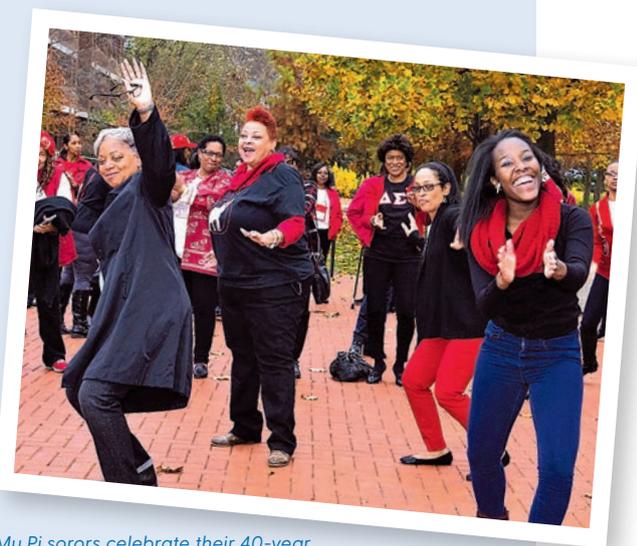
MARC WILSON, AS74, of Littleton, Colo., has established The Wilson Family Fund to support students and faculty in UD's philosophy department, including financial assistance for an

FIRST, FIERCE AND FIFTY

On Oct. 26, 1975, the Mu Pi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. became UD's first African American sorority. In matching white shirts, wrap-around skirts, crimson scarves and red platform shoes, the 12 charter members of Mu Pi strolled campus in solidarity.

Together, **Lethia Cottman, EHD77**, **Marlene Hurtt Dunkley, EHD76**, **Tara Harmon, EHD76**, **Denise Hayman, AS77**, **Esther Hayman, AS76**, **the late Charalane Hoxter, AS78**, **Terry Bayard Joyner, EHD77**, **Edith Claude Moyer, EHD76**, **the late Karen Patton, EHD76**, **the late Adrienne Strickland, EHD77**, and **LaVerne Terry EHD77, O6EdD**, created a community for themselves and beyond themselves.

In the 50 years since, the sorority has pledged 43 lines, representing more than 250 women initiates who have gone on to diverse and successful careers. This October, to commemorate their founding, Mu Pi alumnae will join current chapter members for a celebration, entitled *A Legacy of Excellence: 50 Years of Sisterhood, Scholarship, Service and Social Action*. 🐦



Mu Pi sorors celebrate their 40-year anniversary at Homecoming in 2015.



Thinking big and giving back:

A former president of UD's student government, Wilson credits an inspiring introductory philosophy course with sparking his lifelong intellectual curiosity. "Philosophy opened my mind," says Wilson, whose career highlights include managing a 300-person division at Xerox, launching and spinning off two businesses, and earning a reputation as a visionary leader.



undergraduate summer research fellowship and the funds to send a senior student to a national conference.

PAT CHINANDER, HS77, of Shoreview, Minn., has been named a 2025 Entrepreneur of the Year Heartland Region Award finalist. This is one of the preeminent competitive award programs for entrepreneurs and leaders of high-growth companies. Chinander's company is Love From USA Group Inc.

"Inspiration often strikes by happenstance."

—Wendy Jones Donahoe, AS78

East. The book is a retro romp through the early '80s with a tenacious young woman who shakes up the tech world on a mission to improve healthcare and reclaim her dreams.

JACK BARTLEY, AS84PHD, of Ocean View, Del., has written two novels. *Smoke on the Water*, a fictionalized memoir of his time in the U.S. Navy, was published in April 2025. Based in Pearl Harbor, the book centers on his service on two different ships and a WestPac/Vietnam deployment. He says, "If you liked *M*A*S*H*, you'll enjoy the book." The second novel, *Hilo Dome*, is also based in Hawaii, but the action takes place more than 200 years in the future. The young-adult sci-fi novel, the first book of a trilogy, was published in May 2025 and received a 5-Star Award from Readers' Favorites.

WENDY JONES DONAHOE, AS78, of Alexandria, Va., was awarded a full-page "Artist Focus" feature in the March 2025 issue of *American Art Collector* magazine. She received this honor after earning the Editor's Choice Award in the International Guild of Realism Fall Salon for her colored pencil and acrylic drawing, "The Statehouse on Prince."

JAMES RENAUD, EG85, of Parkton, Md., won the 2024 Outstanding Educator Award in Maryland, given by the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

ROBERT (BOB) JACKSON, EG86, of Kennett Square, Pa., has released a 320-page book of (and on) his artwork titled, *It's a Colorful Life*. The book features 525 images and photos that focus on the career of the American still-life painter from 45 to 60.

KEVIN O'NEILL, AS79, of Glen Mills, Pa., is organizing a 50-year anniversary for alumni of UD's Emergency Care Unit, scheduled for fall 2026. Interested attendees can visit udel.edu/alumni-friends/ecu50 for more reunion information.

1980S

MARK E. BERMAN, AS81, of Davie, Fla., received the Paul S. Buchman Award from the city, county and local government law section of the Florida Bar for his outstanding contribution in the area of legal public service. Berman currently serves as the attorney for the city of Pompano Beach, Fla.

GINA MARIE (DESANTIS) WILSON, AS82, of Hockessin, Del., published her third book and first novel, *Silicon Valley*

Career pivot: Jackson studied engineering at UD, taking Painting 101 under the late Professor Robert Straight only as a "throwaway elective" in his final semester. But five years into his career, he quit engineering because the late professor had "truly introduced me to the art bug."

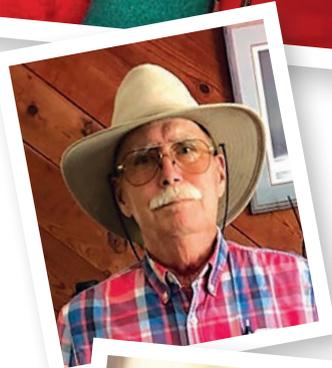


From top to bottom:

Karen Becker Murtagh, AS72, Diane Savage Thompson, AS72, Eileen Daney Carzo, AS73, Martha Toomey, EHD74

Tom Coleman, ANR73, 76

Gina Marie Wilson, AS82





FROM UD TO ABC

Great ideas—and great partnerships—often begin at UD. That’s certainly the case for **Lisa Lane, AS87**, above left, founder of Rinseroo, a slip-on hose attachment that makes it easier to clean showers, pets, even dirty sneakers. Lane recently earned national recognition when she received the coveted Golden Ticket from investor Lori Greiner on ABC’s *Shark Tank*.

Cheering beside her was Lane’s longtime friend and former floormate, **Carolyn Favorito, AS87**, above right, who serves as Rinseroo’s patent attorney. The pair has teamed up to secure five patents for Rinseroo and is currently pursuing a sixth for Lane’s newest product, LeakLocks toiletry skins.

“I couldn’t have imagined that my best friend from UD would one day be a key part of my entrepreneurial success,” says Lane. “Carolyn’s legal expertise—and chemistry degree—have been critical in growing Rinseroo. Our shared history makes this journey even more meaningful and fun.”

Favorito adds, “Our UD connection laid the foundation for this business partnership. Watching Lisa bring her vision to life using her communications and marketing skills has been incredibly rewarding.” 🐦

PATRICIA (KUHNHENN) CARDUCCI, HS89, of Pennsburg, Pa., is now the center director at Concentra Urgent Care, part of Concentra Inc., working out of Allentown, Pa.

1990s

MICHAEL HALFON, BE91, of New York, N.Y., has been promoted to managing director of investments at JPMorganChase in Manhattan.

CHRISTOPHER STRAND, ANR92M, of Avondale, Pa., has been inducted as a national honorary member in The Garden Club of America. Strand is the Charles F. Montgomery Director and CEO of Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library.

JEFF HARRISON, BE93, of Wilmington, Del., helped welcome Maria Sharapova as an inductee of the International Tennis Hall of Fame this summer. Harrison serves as executive vice president for the organization, but his connection to the Grand Slam champion goes back to his days as general manager for the Delaware Smash, when he signed a then-14-year-old Sharapova to her first professional tennis team.

LAUREN HILL, AS93, of Newark, Del., wrote the book *What Your Body Wants You to Know: Exploring Body Awareness, Posture and Movement with the Alexander Technique*, released on April 1, 2025, and quickly becoming an Amazon Bestseller. The book introduces the Alexander Technique, a mind-body approach developed over 125 years ago that helps people alleviate pain and increase comfort through improved posture.

CHRIS JONES, EOE93, of Warroad, Minn., has been promoted to vice president of customer services for Marvin, a premium windows and doors manufacturing company where he has worked in leadership roles for nearly two decades.



From top: Michael Halfon, BE91, Chris Jones, EOE93 and Maria Cobb, EHD99, O2M



“Maria Sharapova told me, ‘I’ll be number one in the world someday, and I’d love to work for you.’ How could I not draft her after hearing that?”

— Jeff Harrison, BE93

BRANDON JONES, EOE94M, O3PHD, of Bowie, Md., has been named president of the American Geophysical Union, an international, nonprofit scientific association whose mission is to “promote discovery in Earth and space science for the benefit of humanity.” Jones has served on the AGU Board of Directors since 2017.

JEREMY MOSKOWITZ, AS94, of Denver, Colo., and **JEFF WARREN, AS07**, of Ridgewood, N.J., work closely together in leadership roles at Netwrix Corporation, a global cybersecurity and IT company. Warren rose through the ranks at Stealthbits, eventually serving as VP, SVP and general manager before its acquisition by Netwrix in 2018. Moskowitz founded his own company, PolicyPak Software, in 2009 and later led it through its own acquisition by Netwrix in 2021. Now, despite graduating more than a decade apart, they collaborate daily—combining entrepreneurial experience, technical leadership and Delaware spirit in a fast-growing part of the tech industry.

MARIA COBB, EHD99, O2M, of Newark, Del., received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, the top honor bestowed by the U.S. government to K-12 STEM teachers. Cobb is a science teacher at Mount Pleasant Elementary School.

2000s

CORINA (CORY) GILDEN, AS00, EHD05M, 19M, BSPA21PHD, of Elsmere, Del., **CAITLIN BAILEY, EDH09, 12M, 20PHD**, of Atlanta, Ga., **KRISTEN LOOMIS, EHD14, BE23M**, of Philadelphia, Pa., and **MONICA MESA-ALVAREZ, AS20M**, of Wilmington, Del., work for The National Leadership Consortium on Developmental

“When I was 7 or 8, I had a vision of becoming an oceanographer,” Jones told *Forbes* in February. “I had no idea what it would entail, how long it would take, or where I would end up. But I kept that vision and was open to experiences and opportunities that moved me forward.”

—Brandon Jones, EOE94M, O3PhD

Disabilities. Comprising four out of the five employees, the Blue Hens serve, respectively, as: research and evaluation manager, co-director, co-director and a research and development associate. Their organization, founded by UD professors Steven Eidelman and Nancy Weiss, trains a new generation of leaders in the developmental disabilities sector. So far, NLC has reached more than 3,000 leaders across 14 countries.

J.D. TALASEK, AS01M, of Washington, D.C., has co-edited *Integrative Contemporary Art and Science Practices: Building Catalytic Structures*, a collection that examines the relationship between contemporary art and scientific inquiry.

ALIX ABBAMONTE, AS03, of Stamford, Conn., launched the Manhattan-based firm, A-Corner Public Relations, which celebrated its one-year anniversary on April 2.

KRISTIE MIKUS, BSPA02M, of Potomac, Md., has been named executive director for the Global Health Technologies Coalition, where she will lead advocacy efforts to accelerate the creation of new technologies to drive global health progress.

ROGER CRAIG, AS04M, EG10PHD, of Arlington, Va., competed in the finals of the *Jeopardy!* Invitational Tournament on March 5 and again in the 2025 *Jeopardy* Masters, where

he made it to the quarterfinals. Craig first appeared on *Jeopardy!* in 2010 when he was a doctoral student at UD. At the time, he was the third-highest winning contestant in the quiz show’s history, and he earned what was then the highest one-day total. He is also a 2011 Tournament of Champions winner, 2014 Battle of the Decades second runner-up and 2019 All-Star Games participant.

SHARON ORAS MORGAN, BE04M, of Chadds Ford, Pa., has been named office managing partner of the Wilmington office of Fox Rothschild.

C. CHELA CHOMICKI, BSPA05M, of Chicago, Ill., was recently recognized as a multi-category finalist in the 2025 Women Changing the World Awards, an international celebration of women leading powerful change across the globe. She was named a finalist in categories including *Coach of the Year*, *Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year* and *Thought Leader of the Year*. And she won first place in *Woman in Travel, Retreats and Events* and second place in *Cultural Diversity and Inclusion*. Chomicki’s 6-year-old daughter, Olivia, was also honored as a third-place winner for *Girl of the Year*. Recently, the pair was interviewed on FOX32 Chicago about the awards and also multi-generational travel, empowerment and leadership development.



Jeff Warren, AS07, left and Jeremy Moskowitz, AS94 above

“Two Blue Hens, starting from opposite sides of campus and time, eventually wound up building something together. UD connections and experiences echo long after graduation.”

—Jeremy Moskowitz, AS94



Sharon Oras Morgan, BE04M



Blue Hen endorsement: Margaret L. Andersen, Rosenberg Professor Emerita of Sociology, says, “Kulp challenges everything the diet industry and diet culture have wrongly told you for years. You will long reflect on what you learn from this book.”

JOHANNA KULP, AS05, of Havertown, Pa., has published her first book, *Finding Peace with Your Body: A Body Image Guide for Women*, which weaves together memoir and professional experience to create an interactive self-help guidebook. Kulp is the founding partner of Live Well Therapy Associates in Narberth, Pa., and previously worked at the Renfrew Center.

BRADLEY CROWELL, AS09, of Littleton, Colo., has been elevated to shareholder in the Denver office of Littler, the world’s largest employment and labor law practice representing management, where Crowell has managed complex disputes, including ERISA class actions, wage and hour class and collective actions, trade secret matters and other business-critical litigation.



2010s

CLAYTON ROWE, BE11, and **DANIELLE GRUBER, EOE12**, both of Wilmington, Del., were married on Nov. 9, 2024, with numerous Blue Hens in attendance.

NENETTE LUARCA-SHOAF, AS12PHD, of Los Angeles, Calif., has been named director of education and public engagement at The Huntington, a world-renowned cultural and educational institution based in San Marino, Calif.

LAUREN BOND, AS12, of Claymont, Del., **ELIZA GOLDMAN, AS14**, of Wilmington, Del., and **EVAN ROBERTS, AS15**, of Newark, Del., performed on May 9 for an audience of family, friends and community members in a concert with the Wilmington Community Orchestra at the Music School of Delaware. The trio—who play the French horn, clarinet and trumpet, respectively—performed in many ensembles together at UD, including marching band, pep band, wind ensemble and orchestra. This marked their first performance together since graduation.

DANIEL B. COHEN, AS13, of Montville, N.J., has been elevated to partner in the litigation department at the Fox Rothschild law firm. He is based in the Morristown, N.J., office.

LINDSAY MCNAMARA, AS12, of Long Branch, N.J., started her own company, Beachy Birder Adventures. The Blue Hen leads guided bird walks throughout New Jersey, encouraging participants to appreciate the beauty and wonder of nature. Beachy Birder Adventures LLC gives everyone a chance to be curious, learn and discover something new.

GAME-CHANGING TECH, BLUE HEN ROOTS



When former UD grad student **Scott Coleman, HS97, O5M, BE08M**, cracked a complex 3D modeling problem in just five hours—while watching four hockey games—his professor, Jim Richards, knew he had someone special on his hands. Today, Coleman, along with fellow alumni **Tim Niiler, AS91, 97M, O1PhD**, and **Rob Hulbert, HS13M**, are key figures at KinaTrax, a cutting-edge motion capture company recently acquired by Sony.

Using their UD-honed expertise in biomechanics and movement science, the team helps elite athletes enhance performance through advanced analysis. The move to Sony expands their primary focus on Major League Baseball to other sports like football, soccer, tennis, hockey and cricket. Coleman leads business development; Niiler is a senior software engineer; Hulbert heads product development.

“Every time we go to conferences or other companies, we meet Blue Hens from this program,” says Hulbert. “It’s a small community, and the presence of Delaware grads around the country is incredible.” 🐔

First photo above: Biomechanics alumni: Rob Hulbert, HS13, Steph Russo, HS08, 14PhD, Kristen Nicholson, HS15PhD, Tyler Richardson, EG10, HS12M, 16PhD, Michael Rowley, AS13, HS13, Garry Quinton, AS03, HS17PhD, and Jim Richards, emeritus professor. Second photo: Scott Coleman (left), HS97, O5M, BE08M, and Tim Niiler, AS91, 97M, O1PhD



From top: Bradley Crowell, AS09, Daniel B. Cohen, AS13 and Katrina Hansen, AS13



Clockwise from top: Clayton Rowe, BE11, and Danielle Gruber, EOE12, celebrate their nuptials with fellow Blue Hens; Chris Reynolds, BE19, receives the Milken Educator Award, photo courtesy of Milken Family Foundation; and musicians Lauren Bond, AS12, Eliza Goldman, AS14, and Evan Roberts, AS15, (pictured from left) perform together for the first time since graduation.

KATRINA HANSEN, AS13, of Landenberg, Pa., will lead the new office of Dermatology Partners, located in Hockessin, Del. As a board-certified dermatologist, Hansen will offer comprehensive medical, surgical and cosmetic patient care.

MEGAN (FORTMAN) GATTO, AS15, of Baltimore, Md., has been named executive director of Art with a Heart, a Baltimore-based nonprofit that enhances the lives of people in need through the visual arts.

CHRIS REYNOLDS, BE19, of Fort Collins, Colo., received the prestigious national Milken Educator Award and a \$25,000 unrestricted cash prize. The surprise announcement was made in March, during a school assembly as part of the 2024–25 Milken Educator Awards tour honoring outstanding educators across the country. Reynolds is an assistant principal and AP microeconomics teacher at Liberty Common High School in Colorado.

2020s

DIADEM ABAYODE, AS22, of Philadelphia, Pa., has been selected as a 2025 Designer-in-Residence at the Philadelphia Fashion Incubator, an organization that nurtures emerging fashion entrepreneurs from Philadelphia design schools and the local fashion community.

JULIA MUN, AS23M, of Marietta, Ga., assistant curator of the Art Bridges Foundation, recently had a major exhibition open at the Bruce Museum in Connecticut. “Metal the Mirror” showcases Isamu Noguchi’s nine monumental galvanized steel sculptures. It is the foundation’s first Asian American exhibition and will be on display at the Bruce Museum until November 2025. After the Bruce Museum, the exhibition will travel to the Mennello Museum of American Art in Orlando, Fla., where it will be on display from September 2026 to February 2027.

From intern to exec: Gatto’s connection to Art with a Heart began when she completed a summer internship with the organization while studying at UD.



JANA POLLARD, BE22, of Brooklyn, N.Y., co-authored a book called *Unlocking Your Leadership—Achieve Success and Change Organizations*. She is excited for people, especially women, to hear practical experiences about leadership, learn insights for greater success and glean tips.



JOSEPH LUDICA, BE21, of Hockessin, Del., has been named senior associate and financial adviser at Diamond State Financial Group, an independent financial services firm with offices in Newark, Del., and Media, Pa. Ludica brings 25 years of experience in the financial services industry.

MATT VALENTIN, EG21, and **MICHELE (FARINA) VALENTIN, HS21**, of Downingtown, Pa., welcomed baby Maria on Jan. 18, 2025.



My little memento: A ticket stub from the her parents' first date makes this baby Blue Hen smile.

DANIEL WALLEN, BE23, of Pleasantville, N.Y., made his Carnegie Hall debut in June at the Weill Recital Hall, where he performed classical piano works by Chopin, Liszt and Debussy.

MATTHEW FRAZIER, EG24, of Tampa, Fla., is a senior software engineer for the Goodway Group. He is working with Virginia Commonwealth University and Brooklyn College, CUNY, conducting research on AI and chat interfaces that help foster helpful learning environments for students in various age groups.

SHARE YOUR NEWS

The Magazine encourages alumni to send us news to share with your fellow Blue Hens. A new job, a promotion, a personal or professional award ... they're all accomplishments we want to announce. Email a note or a press release to magazine@udel.edu. Please include your hometown, graduation year and college or major.

COLLEGE DEGREE LEGEND

- ANR • AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 - AS • ARTS AND SCIENCES
 - BE • LERNER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
 - EG • ENGINEERING
 - EOE • EARTH, OCEAN AND ENVIRONMENT
 - EHD • EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
 - HS • HEALTH SCIENCES
 - BSPA • BIDEN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION
-
- MS • MASTER'S DEGREE
 - PHD, EDD, DPT • DOCTORAL DEGREE
 - H • HONORARY DEGREE

Love this Magazine?

Help shape its future.

We're making changes to how *UD Magazine* is delivered—and we want your input.

Take our 2-minute survey and stay connected:
udel.edu/udmagazine-reader-survey



Your feedback helps us mail smarter, print greener and tell better stories.
 Thanks for reading, and for being part of the community.

IN MEMORIAM

NANCY MUSTARD ALDRIDGE, EHD51, Jan. 17, 2025

JEAN MITCHELL VAN ARSDALEN, AS52, Jan. 24, 2025

LEONARD FISHMAN, AS53, July 10, 2024

RICHARD W. CHAPPELL SR., AS54, Dec. 29, 2024

ROBERT W. SOEDER, AS59M, 62PHD, April 19, 2025

MORRELL HAYES WOODRUFF, HS59, Dec. 31, 2024

RALPH B. SINGER JR., AS68M, March 2, 2025

THEODORE E. KURLAND, EG69, Dec. 20, 2024

ROLAND W. NICHOLS III, ANR70, Sept. 11, 2024

TIMOTHY M. PARSONS, AS70, April 19, 2025

REBECCA WITTMAYER VYE, AS72, Oct. 11, 2024

JOHN L. PEDRICK JR., EOE74M, Dec. 19, 2024

SCOTT D. SHALAWAY, ANR74, Jan. 13, 2025

BETTY SISSON SETTERQUIST, HS75, March 23, 2025

DONALD O. ROGERS JR., EG76, Dec. 17, 2024

KATHLEEN RYAN MIEGEL, HS77, May 20, 2025

PATRICIA DALY ZOLNICK, AS77, Feb. 17, 2025

TERRY L. PLUMMER, AS78, Dec. 15, 2024

SHIRLEY M. WILLIAMSON, EG79, 83M, March 23, 2024

BONNIE L. MILLER, AS82, Feb. 27, 2025

MARILYN HUDAK BRILL, BE83, Feb. 21, 2025

SANDRA HENRY LAND, BSPA84PHD, Nov. 9, 2024

KAREN HALLE FRANKLIN, AS87, April 1, 2025

DANIEL P. HARLEY, AS90, Jan. 17, 2025

VINCENT R. PINI, AS90, Feb. 27, 2025

JUNE F. SOUD, AS90M, Dec. 29, 2023

WILLIAM F. CONWAY, EG97, Oct. 2, 2024

BRIAN G. MARBURG, BE97, Feb. 9, 2025

JORDYN G. LANDAU, EHD21, Jan. 19, 2024

MARINA VASCONCELOS, AS26PHD, April 29, 2025

FACULTY AND STAFF

SUSAN BRYNTESON, May Morris University Librarian Emerita and vice provost emerita, May 26, 2025

JAMES M. BYRNES, retired systems programmer IV, College of Engineering, March 3, 2025

JACQUELINE CALEB, retired manager, Cashiers Office, May 1, 2025

SANDRA "SANDEE" CARBERRY, professor emerita of computer and information sciences, June 26, 2025

SHIRLEY COEN, retired manager, IT Network and Systems Services, April 17, 2025

ROBERT DENHARDT, Charles P. Messick Professor Emeritus of Public Administration, March 19, 2025

IVO DOMÍNGUEZ, associate professor emeritus of Spanish, April 18, 2025

SANDRA G. HARDING, retired professor of philosophy and sociology and early director of UD's women's studies program, March 5, 2025

JEFFREY JORDAN, professor of philosophy, Feb. 14, 2025

CLIFFORD KEIL, associate professor of entomology and applied ecology, Feb. 24, 2025

THEODORE "TED" C. KEMPSKI, HS63, 65M, longest-serving assistant football coach in UD history, March 23, 2025

NATHANIEL H. "NAT" PUFFER, retired assistant director at Morris Library, Feb. 27, 2025

JOHN SAWYER, retired business administration professor, March 22, 2025

HENRY L. "HARRY" SHIPMAN, Annie Jump Cannon Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy, April 29, 2025

PEDRO JUAN SIERRA SR., custodial technician, May 23, 2025

ROBERT STRAIGHT, professor emeritus of art and design, Feb. 3, 2025

FRANCIS X. TANNIAN, professor emeritus of urban affairs and one of the founders of the Biden School of Public Policy and Administration, March 1, 2025

WANDA WILSON, retired records technician, Public Safety, March 9, 2025



ALLAN CARLSEN

Allan Carlsen, assistant professor of theatre and co-founder of Healthcare Theatre at UD, passed away on May 17, 2025. He was 82.

Professor Carlsen joined UD's Department of Theatre in 2001, bringing decades of experience as an actor and director on and off-Broadway, as well as on television and in regional theatre.

In 2009, he co-founded Healthcare Theatre, an innovative collaboration between the College of Health Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences to train students to portray patients and family members in simulated clinical encounters, thus helping future healthcare clinicians gain valuable, realistic experience.

Colleagues praise Professor Carlsen's generosity, vision and leadership.

"Allan was a devoted faculty member whose energy, creativity and compassion left a lasting mark," says Bill Farquhar, interim provost and past CHS dean.

"That Allan did so many different things so well is an expression both of his multifaceted talents and of his commitment to always provide what was wanted and needed in support of others," adds Sanford Robbins, former artistic director of the Resident Ensemble Players.

Kathleen S. Matt, professor emeritus and former CHS dean, calls him "the wizard of healthcare theatre: an inspiration, a force and a legend."

His former students and colleagues agree.

"Allan was the best boss, cheerleader, mentor and friend," says Heather Mekulski, program manager for Healthcare Theatre. "If you were ever in a room with him, you immediately experienced his joy, energy and humor."

"He was a gifted artist, a brilliant educator and, above all else, a passionate supporter of the people around him," says academic adviser Zack Gurock. "Rarely, if ever, would he speak about his own accomplishments, focusing instead on the lives of those around him. I would be hard-pressed to think of another person who so selflessly devoted themselves to the success of others." 🐦

*Please share news
of a loved one's
passing with us at
inmemoriam.udel.edu*

JAZZ IT UP!

FIND YOUR GROOVE AT HARMONY



 **Harmony**
at Glasgow

INDEPENDENT LIVING
ASSISTED LIVING • MEMORY CARE

ADMIT TWO

NOW OPEN!
**EXPERIENCE YOUR
VIP TOUR AND A
FREE LUNCH TODAY!**



(302) 722-6157
HarmonyAtGlasgow.com

2530 Old County Road
Newark DE, 19702



OWN A
CAPRIOTTI'S
SANDWICH SHOP



**CONTACT US TO
LEARN MORE**

📞 (702)-522-2496

🌐 ownacapriottis.com

**THE SPOT YOU LOVED AS A
STUDENT OFFERS FRANCHISES
NATIONWIDE.**

Bring the flavors of your college days to
your community and own a business
with a dedicated, loyal following!



JENNER'S POND

A Simpson Community

Life Is Bigger Here.

Jenner's Pond offers a thriving lifestyle for UD alums and retirees. Enjoy an active social life in a natural setting with abundant space.

LEARN MORE AT JennersPondUDmag.org OR (610) 890-6718.



LIFE FLOURISHES AT JENNER'S POND.

More than a few academics, alumni, and retirees from the University of Delaware call Jenner's Pond home. And for good reason. This 62+ Life Plan Community offers some of the largest single-family homes in the region with private backyards and patio spaces. Our pet-friendly campus is perfect for those who love walking in secure, natural settings. As an entrance fee community, you can access a full continuum of care and a full spectrum of socializing, dining, and life-enhancing experiences. Join us for tours or public events throughout the year!

Join us for our free events: JennersPondUDmag.org

2000 Greenbriar Lane
West Grove, PA 19390   



Q+A

ANDREW WOZNIAK

Last spring—1.6 miles below the ocean’s surface—UD Associate Professor Andrew Wozniak witnessed history erupt. The geochemist had traveled 600 miles south of Mexico aboard a research vessel so that he and a team of collaborators (funded by the National Science Foundation) could spend three weeks studying a series of underwater vents on the seafloor. The Blue Hen never expected one of the underwater volcanoes powering these vents to blow in front of the vehicle, making him the first person to witness such an event from a manned submersible. Now, Wozniak shares what this explosive experience means for science—and for all of us.

If you didn’t intend to see an eruption, what DID you intend? We were there for a purpose, I swear! I study the presence or absence of certain chemicals and how they impact ocean chemistry. And we were able to gather much data on that!

You’ve described the eruption as mind-boggling. How so? This is known as a Willy-Wonka-Disney-World-level magical place because it’s typically flowing with that much life. But on this journey to the seafloor, the 17th dive of the trip, we saw none of it. Instead, we noticed a current, lots of gray stuff floating in the water. Then we saw fresh

basalt, the rocks that form when lava cools, and we noticed the temperature sensors on the submersible rising. My brain was slowly processing: Could this be an eruption? The chances are one in a... billion? Trillion? But it was happening—we were just tens of meters away from the live lava.

Submersibles have been in the news, and I imagine safety concerns are compounded near an erupting volcano. Did you feel unsafe? No, the *Alvin* engineers are incredibly safety conscious. We made the decision to return to the surface to avoid entering water too hot.

Your team included undergraduate Alyssa Wentzel, EOE25. What was it like sharing the experience? You’re worried students will be seasick the whole time and ready to go home. And before you know it, they’re turning into oceanographers before your eyes. That’s a wonderful, gratifying experience.

Why should the average person care about underwater volcanoes? Beyond capturing the imagination—and reinforcing what a crazy, interesting, magnificent place our planet is—studying these areas may reveal the origin of life on Earth. They’ve also informed the search for life on other planets (turns out, you don’t need the presence of oxygen or photosynthesis). Because these are such unique environments, you can expect to find organisms here that have unique adaptations—potentially useful for pharmaceutical innovation. There are also many rare minerals around these areas that we need for electronic devices (although there are ethical considerations around whether people should mine for them). Finally, studying these areas enhances understanding of how the Earth works—and how we interact with our planet depends on this understanding.

Are there lessons there for humans, in terms of our own survival after extreme events? Think of Europe after World War II—there are many analogies. Life always finds a way. 🐦



STONEGATES

Senior Living in Greenville, DE

Choosing a new home, especially at this stage of life, is never just about square footage. It's about feeling supported and in control.

At Stonegates, you own your home. You stay connected to your rhythms, your routines, your independence. With on-site care and a community that feels more like family than staff, you'll never feel like you've given something up.

Your next chapter, authored by you

- ✓ Deeded Apartments & Cottages
- ✓ Full Continuum of Care On Site
- ✓ Fully Customizable Luxury Interiors
- ✓ Surrounded by Nature & Culture
- ✓ Memory Care & Assisted Living

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Visit stonegates.com
or call (302) 658-6200



Scan with your phone



Schedule a tour at stonegates.com or call (302) 658-6200

4031 Kennett Pike · Greenville, DE 19807



University of Delaware
The Academy Building
Newark, DE 19716-7201

udel.edu

Electronic Service Requested

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

HOMECOMING

NOVEMBER 7-8, 2025

Cheer Delaware to victory against Louisiana Tech in the Homecoming football game on November 8 and celebrate Blue Hen spirit the entire weekend with a variety of events!

BLUE HEN TAILGATE

Let us do the tailgating for you! Receive an exclusive UD branded beanie, and enjoy food, drinks and music by Love Seed Mama Jump.

ALUMNI AFFINITY EVENTS

Join the Black Alumni Organization and others for Homecoming events.

CLASS REUNIONS

Class of 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990 and 1995 are invited to celebrate on campus.



Scan the QR code or visit udel.edu/homecoming to learn more and register.



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
DEVELOPMENT &
ALUMNI RELATIONS